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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

SOLEMN TOM-FOOLERY.

Of all places which dot the surface of this isle, Oxford has borne off the palm for lagging in the rear of the advancing intelligence of the age. The genius of that university has ever been famous for sectarianism of the strictest kind. Adhesiveness is its most prominent phrenological development. Its habits are even yet those of unenlightened times. Customs which a long course of experience has proved to be pernicious—forms as inapposite to the present usages of society as trial of suspected guilt by walking over hot ploughshares—statutes which condense in learned language as much antique barbarism as it can be made to express—modes of government as inefficient as they are puerile—flourish in undiminished vigour at Oxford. It is, perhaps, the only veritable patch of the "wisdom of our ancestors" which yet retains its place in the dress of national manners—a little bit of the fifteenth century protruding itself above the successive layers of the last four—past times done into the present tense—a crystallisation of all the follies which the more general diffusion of light has exploded. It is almost the only cobwebbed corner of the kingdom which innovation has left entirely untouched. Its dust is the dust of ages—and there erudition nestles amidst the rubbish of long by-gone days.

Oxford looks forward to the coming morrow with feverish anxiety—for a convocation of its members will then be holden, to perform an act worthy of olden times. From every part of the kingdom, men, all of whom are actually grown up, not a few of them grey, some of them occupying posts of public eminence, will assemble to perpetrate, if they can ultimately agree thereupon, a piece of solemn buffoonery at which the nation must needs blush whilst it laughs. Mr Ward is to be degraded—such, at least, is the proposition of the heads of houses. And what is the ceremony? Simply this. The delinquent is to stand forth in the presence of the convocation, duly habited in his academical dress, and, having received from the vice-chancellor a "grave and severe lecture," is to submit to the process of unrobing by the hands of one of the inferior Bedells—and this by prescribed degrees—first of all the *pileus*, afterwards the *capitium*, then the *capa*, and lastly the *toga*, are to be pulled off his dishonoured person—and thus denuded of all the university *insignia*, the unfortunate gentleman is to be thrust out of the assembly.

Mr Ward, as is well known, is the author of a work entitled "The Ideal of a Christian Church," and assuredly, if any man ever courted degradation, he has done so. With opinions avowedly in favour of Rome, and glorying in some of the worst errors of that church, he all but dared the university to rebuke him, maintaining the propriety of subscribing to all its tests in "a non-natural sense"—that is, in any sense whatever which he chose to put upon them. It is, even now, doubtful whether such jesuitry will be condemned—in which case, the worth of subscription, as a guarantee for orthodoxy, will, probably, be estimated at its proper amount. The ceremonial, however, prescribed by the university statute is unaffected by any considerations as to the guilt of the delinquent. In barbarity and puerility it is about on a

level with the old practice of dragging malefactors to Tyburn turnpike on a hurdle—and perhaps Oxford is the only place in the kingdom in which men could be found to go through it gravely.

There is, however, other business to be transacted at this convocation. It is proposed, by a sort of side wind, to enact a new test by condemning Tract 90. Now, Tract 90 has been before the world four years. The principles which it develops were born at Oxford, cradled there, fed into strength, and still find their most congenial home there. How happened it that the old-fashioned babe was not long since disowned and disinherited? Every one knows that it has no lack of friends in that quarter. What new zeal is this which snatches up the lance to have a tilt against Tract 90? Is orthodoxy more alive to the perils which beset it now, than it was when Mr Newman first disclosed his precious doctrines to the world? Not so, we fear. The project has only been hatched about a fortnight—and the condemnation of Tract 90, if, indeed, it be condemned, will be owing rather to a difficulty in which the hebdomadal board had placed themselves, by the withdrawal of their proposed new test, than to any real interest in the purity of gospel faith.

Whatever may be the immediate issue of the approaching convocation, we cannot doubt that its proceedings will go far to exemplify, in a tangible and striking shape, the utter uselessness of attempting to bandage the conscientious convictions of the mind by oaths the most stringent, tests the most searching, or subscriptions the most solemn. Within that assembly which is convened for the purpose of degrading Mr Ward, every member of which has given his unfeigned assent and consent, *ex animo*, to all and everything contained in the articles of the church of England and in the book of common prayer, there will be found as great a diversity of religious opinion as could be well gathered together under any one system. The only certain results which such attempts to cramp the conscience have been known to produce are perjury and hypocrisy. Whilst profession is trampled, belief tramples in scorn upon all restraint; and thus it almost invariably happens that the outward is at variance with the inward man. Such, making all the allowances which charity can suggest, is the natural tendency of the whole system. Temporal advantages or disadvantages attached by law to opinion, whilst they operate but slightly in ruling opinion, interfere most sensibly with the open avowal of it. Hence, in the long run, the very teachers of the sublimest truths degenerate into a race of insincere men. The age takes the tone of its educated sons, and a general want of truthfulness becomes its characteristic feature.

It is odd enough—and to our minds quite unintelligible—that beings possessed of rational powers should ever imagine that the conclusions of fallible men are then most useful, when embalmed like mummies, and stuck up as idols to receive the homage of all succeeding generations. Whether we meet with it in a university statute, or in a trust-deed of a dissenting chapel, we regard every attempt to preserve articles of faith by means of documentary authority with much the same loathing as that with which we look on the preservation in spirits of the *lusus natura* of the physical world. Truth has no real existence, save when embodied in living disciples—no sure guarantee for its continuance but earnest faith. Its safety is identified with its freedom. Its strength is in its own vitality. All the modes invented by men to shield it from assault serve but to encumber its movements, and, like the heavy armour of a former day, to invite danger by impeding action. When will this be universally understood? When will ecclesiastics pay that reverence to the essential dignity of mind which they might find ample warrant for in the whole tenor of that revelation which they profess to preach? How slowly do we advance to a due appreciation of religious liberty! In the very middle of the nineteenth century, we are holding by all the puerile fears of the fifteenth—and Oxford is about to celebrate an *auto-da-fé*, as monstrous in principle as any which ever disgraced the annals of Italy or of Spain.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

MR BURNET'S LECTURE AT ISLINGTON.

A LECTURE, in connexion with the above association, was delivered by Mr Burnet, of Camberwell, at Islington Green chapel, on Wednesday evening.

The subject selected was "State churches unsanctioned by Old Testament analogy."

The following is a brief abstract of the lecturer's remarks:—

If it be asked why we advocate such a subject as this, and are not satisfied with preaching the gospel of Christ, and seeking the salvation of sinners and the edification of the people of God, we reply, that we do not neglect these topics. Anything that we have to say upon the constitution and government of the church, is in addition to the efforts that we have been accustomed to make, and are still making, for the enlightenment of the world and the building up of the church. Some of our brethren are pointed out to us, and we are told that they are the quiet men of their generation—that they are attending to their flocks, to the study of the word of God, and the preaching of the gospel—and are not engaged in agitation. But again we reply, we are doing all that they do and a little more besides. If they hold the principles of dissent to be so important that they would not take in lieu of them all the emoluments of the church—and they say that they regard them as so important that they would not yield them up for the bishop's mitre, his palace, his more than princely income—then why do they not come before the world and state it? I should deem myself a very schismatical person if I were to separate from my brethren of the established church about something which was not worth publishing. What was it that brought upon the world the darkness of the middle ages? Not so much erroneous doctrine, as mistaken views of the government of Christ's kingdom. What, then, are we to do to prevent the recurrence of such an evil? Disown the authority which was then exercised over the minds of the people, and which had no foundation in the word of God. We are told that Timothy and Titus were bishops; but the postscripts appended to these epistles were put in by the printers, and not by inspiration. But suppose that the word of God said that they were bishops, when we consider the description given of bishops in the New Testament, we find that it is utterly at variance with the ecclesiastical authority exercised by this fraternity since Constantine gave them a place which the New Testament never assigned them. But when we battle our opponents out of the New Testament they go to the Old, and it is to that which I have been requested to direct your attention to-night. They say that if we cannot find a national church in the New Testament, we can find it by analogy in the Old. At the very outset of the argument there is something assumed; the assumption is, that there is to be an analogy between the Old and the New Testament dispensations, and the moment you admit this, you must admit a national church. But when people begin to reason on analogy, they should prove the appropriateness of the analogy first. We refuse to allow that the Old Testament dispensation was intended to be like the New. The apostle speaks of the former as "a shadow of good things to come," and not the very image of the things themselves. There, then, is a denial of the analogy at once on inspired authority. Who ever thought of drawing a man's picture from his shadow! And yet the apostle says that the one dispensation was only a shadow of the other; that is, there were some points of resemblance, but that the analogy was to be allowed to exist throughout every part of the New Testament is distinctly denied. But suppose that we were to grant the analogy between the Old and the New Testament church, the Old Testament dispensation had an establishment, and we are to have the same under the New. Grant it. The Old Testament establishment came from heaven; God said, amidst the lightnings, and thunders, and the sound of trumpets, and the voice of angels, on Mount Sinai, that there should be a national establishment. Where is the analogy under the New Testament dispensation? It may be said, that because Moses was the instrument of establishing the Jewish church, sovereigns may establish a national church under the gospel. Is that the case? God gave to Moses everything connected with the establishment of the church; he left him no discretion; he gave him a law, and said, concerning even the tabernacle, and its pins, and sockets, and boards, and curtains, and hangings, "See that thou make them according to the pattern that I showed thee in the Mount." Where, then, is the analogy between Moses and the sovereigns of any of the nations of Christendom so called? They make their laws, and send out their rescripts and canons signed by themselves; God has not spoken at all; they touch them up and amend them, and make their church discipline acts, and amendments upon their church discipline acts; and acts for building churches, and amendments upon those acts; and thus, from parliament to parliament, from conclave to conclave, from monarch to monarch, from decree to decree, from rescript to rescript, they load us with the productions of ecclesiastical his-

tory, until they become so voluminous that it is a profession to peruse them, and beyond the power of any profession to understand them. Is this like God's simple plan even under the Old Testament dispensation? What an overlooking is there of details! Why, Moses is the very contrast of all sovereigns that ever directed or formed churches. They might as well bring us the likeness of a gentleman, and say that that was an excellent likeness of his lady; there is an analogy between them, it is true; the one is one, and the other is one, but that is all. A man that would quote the Old or the New Testament in the House of Commons, would be laughed at. They do not reason on that book, and they all know it. If a member were to rise and seek to make the church analogous to the Old Testament, he would be at once perplexed. First of all, is every idolater to be put to death? Is every one that breaks the sabbath to be stoned? Is every one—and perhaps some of the Puseyites would answer in the affirmative—to be dressed in a certain habitment; and every one to be regarded as clean or unclean, not according to character, but external circumstances? A member once stood up in the House and asked for an answer on scriptural principles, upon which Lord Althorp rose and said, "The House does not expect that I should answer such a question as this;" and the motion was dropped without a second.

The appointment of officers is a very important thing in all institutions. It is important to know how sovereigns are to get to the throne, how the heads of the church are to get to the position they occupy? How were the priests appointed under the Old Testament? By God himself; they were of the family of Aaron, and their assistants were of the tribe of Levi. But the moment you come to our national establishment it is different; it is profane to make an analogy between the appointment of Henry VIII. and the Majesty of heaven. Further, both the priests and Levites, as well as the high priest, held their office by inheritance; God appointed their descendants for ever, he left no room to legislate. Is there any analogy here? The clergy of our national establishment are appointed by the sovereign in their higher branches, and sometimes in the lower; very frequently by gentlemen, noblemen, sometimes by the town council, and sometimes by sale—where is the analogy? The more we go into this, the more it fails; the one is light, the other darkness; the one establishment is proper because it is in God's hands, the other is improper because it has been taken out of his hands. Under the Old Testament dispensation, the priests were directed by God as to what they were to do, even as to the side of the altar at which they were to stand, and where they were to pour out the blood of the sacrifice—nothing was left to their discretion. But, under the New Testament dispensation, no such directions are given; and, when a dispute arises, some say, "Obey the rubric;" others, "Obey the Bishop of Exeter;" and then the Archbishop of Canterbury steps in, and says, "It is hard to decide between them." It is taking the Old Testament from its position of grandeur to compare it with the ecclesiastical establishments of modern Europe.

But we come to the executive department. Our opponents say it was necessary that the plan of the Jewish church should be laid in this way; or else, perhaps, the persons to whom it was entrusted would have said, "We will have idolatry;" but, from an assumed liberality in the executive department, they take their analogy. The national church, however, under Judaism, was not a platform: the plan was filled up in all its parts, and God allowed the Jews no discretion in the execution of the Old Testament dispensation. Their very wars were failures when God did not direct them. Joshua and the judges were directed in all their movements. If Saul neglected to do what God told him he was rejected. He took the executive into his own hands, and he lost his crown and his life. A man was found breaking the Sabbath, and God himself was consulted. If there is to be analogy, let the analogy be carried out, and let us have an Old Testament church. If we find that the analogy fails in all the realities which constituted the church a national church, then we ought to abandon the name of analogy. The Jewish church was not, in the strict meaning of the phrase, a national church. A national church is a church made by a nation—the Jewish church was made by God. A national church is a church made for a nation by government authority—the Jewish church was made for a nation by Divine authority; and, consequently, there never can be a national church like that. God has sealed up the vision and the prophecy; the Most Holy has been anointed; the destiny of the world is wound up in the rejection or reception of the book God has given us, and he will never again appear for the formation of a national church. If any individual says that I assume too much—that perhaps God will appear—I reply, when he does, and when he establishes another church like the Jewish, then we shall all gladly become its members.

There is another point of view in which our friends ought to carry out the analogy in reference to the Jewish church, viz., the mode of its support, and its ecclesiastical functionaries. Will the present clergy be satisfied to give up all their lands and property? for that was the case with the Jewish clergy. If they will, we shall not then want an income tax. The Jewish priests had a part of the skin and of the flesh of the animals; how would the clergy now, after giving up their livings, like to depend on the farmers for a bit of meat now and then? That would be an analogy, and if the analogy were found they would not stay in the church. In another point of view they very much dislike the

analogy which they are so anxious to claim. Suppose that there were hereditary bishops and clergy of all descriptions, would the crown consider it worth its while to keep up the church after losing all its patronage? If the crown were to be told, "You have nothing to do with it, it is an hereditary right," the reply would be, "Then take care of yourselves, I am not to be your hereditary guardian." Again, under the Old Testament church, the priesthood were dependent on the liberality of the people; there was no law of Moses to compel the payment of tithes; and we should like the clergy to take this analogy under their consideration. It is remarkable, that throughout the whole economy of Moses, there is not a single law authorising any priest to exact a single farthing by force. In the very first chapter of Leviticus the opprobrious word "voluntary" is used—"of their own voluntary will." Is there anything like this in the established churches of Christendom? An act of parliament, without a penalty, is no law; all the laws connected with the church have their penalties; and if you do not pay they will seize you by the police, or if that fails they will employ soldiers. If the infantry be not enough they will give you the cavalry, and if that is not sufficient they will give you the artillery. Where is the analogy here? But it may be said, tithes are as old as rents—that they are the property of the church. Might not the Jewish priesthood have argued that question still more strongly? Our clergy cannot come forward and say that England was divided among their forefathers, and that their share was given up on the condition that they should receive the tithes; yet, as I have said, the Jewish priests were dependent on the voluntary support of the people. It was the divine intention that the instructors of the people should stand on their moral worth and the efficiency of their teaching, not upon their paternal right, as having had a claim to a part of the territory of Canaan. Under the Old Testament they were dependent on the feeling their good teaching would produce; but this is an analogy with which our friends are disposed to quarrel. They say that, if Christianity were to be supported by this mode, it would go down—that ministers dare not preach honestly and faithfully. Is the gospel, in point of efficiency, beneath the efficacy of the Old Testament dispensation? These attempted analogies are drawn because they are not seriously thought of. If, then, the national church is not what it ought to be, let them take the New Testament itself as their guide. The two dispensations have distinct and different objects in view, and if in anything they are to be regarded as common, it is this—that they were both free-will institutions, maintaining their existence only so long as a right spirit was cultivated among their members, to support the administration of their institutions. We struggle for independence of human authority, and we mean to live and die in the struggle. If the outposts are to fall one after another, the main army will come at last, and the day of decision will arrive. It is a struggle of mind, and mind only; and we wish for nothing else. If we are called violent merely from the phraseology we employ, we answer that we have not yet arrived at that strength of expression by which the national church anathematizes its neighbours. That term is not in our dictionary, and we never intend to introduce it. My impression, however, is that they do not dislike our hard words, but the hard ideas they contain. We will endeavour to set before the world our sentiments regarding the evils of a national establishment; and we will do it in the confidence that ultimately the descendants of those who differ from us will concur in opinion with our descendants, and so the strifes of the fathers will be forgotten in the harmony of the children.

CONDEMNATION OF TRACT 90.—At the weekly meeting of the heads of houses, in Oxford university, on Monday week, a requisition, signed by 442 members of convocation, calling upon the board to condemn the celebrated No. 90 of the "Tracts for the Times," was taken into consideration. A motion was made to take the requisition into consideration that day six months. A debate of seven hours finished with an adjournment to Wednesday, when the board agreed, by sixteen to eight, to a decree declaring that the forms of interpretation of the thirty-nine articles suggested in the tract, "evading rather than explaining the sense of the thirty-nine articles, and reconciling subscription to them with the adoption of errors which they were designed to counteract, defeat the object, and are inconsistent with the due observance" of the statutes on the subject.

The papers publish an "opinion" by Sir Frederick Thesiger (solicitor-general), Sir Charles Wetherell, Dr Addams, and Mr Cowling, on the power of the Oxford university in Mr Ward's case. They pronounce "that the university has the power to degrade, and that that power is by no means limited or confined to cases of prior conviction of an offence by a court of competent jurisdiction; that the extracts (from the 'Ideal of a Christian Church Considered') set forth in the notice contain sufficient cause to justify the house of Convocation in taking cognisance of them; that there is no ground for impeaching the validity of a degradation by the convocation; and that an appeal lies solely to the Crown, as visitor of the university."

COLONIAL BISHOPRICS.—The next see erected by the committee, to whom has been entrusted the appropriation of the Colonial Bishoprics' fund, will be that of Ceylon. The Rev. J. Chapman, M.A., formerly fellow of King's college, Cambridge, rector of Dunstan Walled, Essex, will be the first bishop of the new diocese.—*Times*.

Correspondence.

MR JAMES'S PROPOSAL FOR AIDING THE CHURCHES IN THE CHOICE OF A PASTOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—The promised document of Mr James has at length made its appearance in the *Christian Witness*, and, with your permission, I will take the liberty of offering a remark or two upon the sentiments which it contains.

Let me, however, preface by saying that I esteem Mr James in his character as a man, minister, and Christian, in no common degree. Amidst the number of our ministers, eminent for piety and usefulness, he stands in the foremost rank. His motives are evidently good, and flow from a disinterested heart; but the best men have been mistaken on some point or points; and my humble opinion is, that he is so here.

He mentions the present evils which are in existence amongst us, resulting from a want of caution and information on the part of a church or congregation, in the choice of a pastor, and then proceeds to propose his remedy—namely, "a small committee in London, appointed by the Congregational Union, who should become acquainted with our churches that need ministers, and ministers and students that need churches, to whom application should be made through the medium of the county associations." He proceeds to state that he sees more difficulties than dangers in the scheme. A stipendiary agent would of course be required.

Now, Sir, I think there are both dangers and difficulties. If we look upon the origin of the present corrupt state of Christianity, we shall find it in a similar cause to the proposed scheme. The primitive church of Rome was celebrated for its piety throughout the Christian churches, who applied for "advice but not dictation" to the "brethren at Rome." Soon, however, did evils begin to spring up, which grew gradually to the present "abomination;" and who would not tremble to split upon the same rock, with this before our eyes? I will not dwell, however, on this portion of the paper, as it will be adverted to by abler hands than mine; but just make a reflection on the following remark:—

"It is one of things wanting, which I wish to see set in order; and, though I do not presume to censure my beloved and honoured brethren, from whom I differ on the expediency of the setting up and maintaining the Anti-church-and-state Conference, I have been of opinion all along, and am still, that our wisdom lies in first seeking to improve our own internal condition, as a denomination, in all that is holy, spiritual, and devout, in our members, in their individual condition, as well as in all that is orderly, peaceable, and well-compacted together, in their collective capacity, &c."

We see placed before us, in juxtaposition, two evils. The one, a state-church; the other, a minor defect in the working of a voluntary community—one a public wrong, the other a private discrepancy. Suppose we follow out practically such reasonings as the above, and where would our Missionary society find support, for we must not think of the heathen abroad so long as we have one at home? And when would it be expedient to commence the agitation of the state-church question? At what point of perfection must our own body have arrived before that desirable moment should arrive? Many such awkward surmises arise in considering this point; but I fear trespassing on your valuable time. Hoping that you will give us your opinions on the proposal as now minutely detailed, I remain yours truly,

Manchester, Feb. 4th, 1845.

LIGNUM, JUN.

THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—Will you spare a corner in the *Nonconformist* of next Wednesday, for a brief apology for the doings and sayings of the editor of the *Christian Witness* related in one of your leaders of last Wednesday?

On reference to the "Dedication" of said *Witness* will appear this ominous enunciation—"To public men in our present state the condition of doing much that is wise and good is, the doing, sometimes, a little of that which is neither." It is right that creed and conduct should be consistent. As are principles, so should practices be. The editor of the *Witness* is a "public man." He aims to do "much that is wise and good," and, *inter alia*, to check the progress of the alarming radicalism which threatens the stability of "things that are;" which makes men "dress'd in a little brief authority," tremble for their robes and power; which would shatter "Unions;" which would not allow the *Witness*, their *protégé*, to speak "as one having authority," nor even give an editor credit for infallibility. For this end, most "wise and good," as none of "the excellent of the earth" doubt, means may be used that are neither wise nor good. After the avowal of the sentiment quoted from the "Dedication," who is surprised by "Mysterious Inuendoes" from the dedicator? Once it was written of those who said "Let us do evil that good may come," "Their condemnation is just." But it must be evident to all intelligent men that the character of the times, and the peculiar position and duties of "public men," have rendered obsolete this writing.

Having thus shown the consistency between the creed and the conduct of the earnest editor, which must suffice as an explanatory apology for him, and confiding in your usual candour for its insertion,

Believe me, dear sir, sincerely yours,

Thatcham, Feb. 8, 1845.

W. L. R. C.

MISPRINTS.—Misprints often strike what are termed unlucky blows. The omission of a *t* makes the mortal the moral, and the immortal poet stands praised as the immoral poet. We read a short time ago a lamentation on "the frightful increase of morality in the metropolis;" and once saw the advertisement of a treatise on "the blessed immorality of the soul;" we have met with the glory of a conqueror turned into *gory* by the dropping of the liquid consonant; our loyalty has been shocked by the announcement of a "most reasonable attempt on the life of a Sovereign;" but, worst of all, we lately saw the Duke of Buckingham described, through the dropping of the dog's letter, as "the Farmers' Fiend."—*Examiner*.

Lord Panmure has given to the Brechin Mechanics' institution a splendid collection of paintings, some of which cost him £700 each.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Church of England, to settle the differences of opinion and practice, 2.
 Intemperance, to discourage, 1.
 Labouring classes, for improvement of, 1.
 Medical profession, against alteration of the law, 5.
 ——— for alteration of, 3.
 Paper, for repeal of duty on, 1.
 St Asaph and Bangor, against union of Sees, 1.
 Slave Trade, against, 1.
 Tobacco, for reduction of duty on, 1.
 Window Tax, for repeal of, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Outlawries bill.
 Companies Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.
 Railway Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.
 Lands Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Companies Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.
 Railway Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.
 Lands Clauses Consolidation bill.
 ——— (Scotland) bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, February 5th.

SESSIONAL ORDERS.—RAILWAY BUSINESS.

Mr YOUNG moved the usual sessional orders.

On the order declaring it a breach of privilege for a peer to vote in the election of a member, Mr WILLIAMS objected to its continuance, since it is notoriously infringed; the House has no means of enforcing it, and he wanted to know what statute-law contained the prohibition. He was backed by Mr WALLACE, Mr HUME, and Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE. The last declared that there was not a single county member, and very few borough members, who did not seek the influence of peers at their election, almost on their bended knees: without the consent of a peer, the House might now be deprived of the services of a secretary for Ireland; and to enforce the order would bring the House into collision with three-fourths of the peers and two-thirds of the bishops. Mr GOULBURN maintained that the House is the sole judge of its own privileges; and if a peer should vote for a member, the House would reject the vote. The house was cleared for a division; but the order was affirmed without one.

Mr CHRISTIE moved an amended order respecting the exclusion of strangers. It authorised the Sergeant-at-arms to arrest strangers in the body of the House and the members' gallery; but limited the order to those parts. Mr Christie's motion was agreed to. This order does not affect the right of members specially to move the exclusion of all strangers; a right explained by the Speaker to exist at common law, and not to depend upon sessional orders.

The order that no private bill be received after the 28th of February having been read,

Lord HOWICK drew attention to the bearing of that order on railway bills. The railway committee of last year laid it down that the Board of Trade should not decide on such bills, but only investigate and report to the House. The Board have notified to various companies the conclusions to which they have come, but without stating the grounds; leaving the companies in the dark as to the expediency of yielding to the determination of the Board, or still supporting their measures before parliament. Large amounts of property are at stake. In the London and York Railway Company, for instance, the shares are sixty thousand in number—bargains have been made in them on the Stock Exchange at £20 premium, conditionally on the Board's reporting in favour of the line—thus staking £1,200,000 on the decision of the Board. If the government were to adopt the decision of the Board as final, and move to reject a bill on its second reading, it would in effect be to make the executive government decide the question, instead of the legislature, opening the door to endless suspicions and abuses. Indeed, already whispers begin to be circulated of an injurious kind—large speculations are said to have been made in certain railways just before the announced decision of the Board; though Lord Howick believed those suspicions to be quite unfounded. He confessed that he himself ought not to be judge; for he frankly avowed that he was in the position of a person interested in an undertaking of the kind that had been unfavourably reported; but he only desired that companies should not be called upon to determine whether they would proceed or not until they knew the grounds for the decision of the Board of Trade; and therefore he would allow twenty-one days after the report of the Board of Trade affecting any particular railway had been laid on the table, within which it should be competent for any particular company to present its bill.

Sir ROBERT PEEL never understood that the discretion of the House was to devolve absolutely upon the Board of Trade. He allowed that there was great force in what Lord Howick said, and that it deserved further consideration.

With the general concurrence the order was postponed.

THE ADDRESS.

When the report on the address was presented a long and rambling discussion took place.

Mr HUME made some observations on the propriety of large reductions of taxation. Mr WILLIAMS

dwelt on similar topics; and Mr S. CRAWFORD pressed on the consideration of Sir R. Peel the alarming condition of the people of Ireland, and hoped that the present session would not pass over without the introduction of a measure on the security of tenure.

Mr WAKLEY remarked on the essential distinction between a property and an income tax, and cautioned the House from being led away by the prosperous passages of the royal speech, into the delusion that there was no existing distress. The fact was, that the majority of the House were utterly ignorant of the appalling misery at present endured by the unskilled labourers. He would much rather that the law of settlement were altogether abolished than amended, unless it were dealt with so as to remove evils which it inflicted on the labouring poor, such as the forcible removal of a widow to the place of her husband's settlement, where she might have no relations, and be quite unknown. He hoped Sir J. Graham would see the propriety, as well as safety, of still further mitigating the poor law. He glanced at other topics touched on or omitted from the royal speech; expressed his conviction that Ireland (towards which he believed that Sir R. Peel wished to do justice) was in a lawless state, the consequence of neglect and ill treatment. The trial of Mr O'Connell and his colleagues had created sympathy in the minds of the English people, who were previously alienated by the agitation. But the Irish members had never fairly tested the good disposition of the legislature; instead of absenting themselves from parliament, they should come with a regular series of matured and judicious measures for the benefit of Ireland; and if that House rejected them, the consequences be on their own heads.

The address was then agreed to, and ordered to be presented to her Majesty by the whole House.

Thursday, Feb. 6.

RAILWAYS.—THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Lord GRANVILLE SOMERSET introduced six bills to consolidate uniform clauses in a variety of railway acts; and he took occasion to propose that fourteen days be allowed to the promoters of a railway bill after the decision of the Board of Trade should be known. Sir ROBERT PEEL further explained, that the promoters might present their petition as much earlier as they pleased, but it should not be compulsory upon them to do so for fourteen days. Lord HOWICK expressed himself quite satisfied with that arrangement.

Colonel SMITH then revived the discussion on the rumours that the Board abuse their powers; asking if any of the four or five gentlemen composing the commission were connected, directly or indirectly, with any of those railroads which had been brought under their consideration? Lord GRANVILLE SOMERSET was not prepared for the question; but parties were generally satisfied with the fairness of the committee.

Mr WAKLEY said, that was no answer. Reports are circulated which ought to be contradicted. Certain persons in the city happen always to be right in their speculations; and in a single day one gentleman made £40,000 by the sale of shares that rose from a small premium to one of £9 or £10. He went on to complain of the expensive proceedings before select committees on railway bills; counsel, who are paid some ten guineas a day, spinning out their time—barristers of moderate ability having earned £6,000, £8,000, or £10,000 last session. He had heard of a junior barrister who took up a bill containing 183 clauses, declared that the subject of each clause comprised thirteen "subdivisions," and consumed more than one day in arguing the first "subdivision!"

Mr GLADSTONE spoke in defence of the Board. He reminded the House, that the decisions of the Board are really not final. It was his conviction that no member of the Board had any interest in railways. Mr O'Brien, when appointed, having been private secretary to Sir James Graham, spontaneously declared that he possessed a few shares, and willingly complied with the suggestion that he should at once dispose of them. There is no proof, nor even strong presumption, in support of the rumours; and it is easy to see that parties who have gone before the Board, and have paid attention to the questions asked, have drawn their inferences and operated accordingly. As to the controlling of counsel, he could see no way; and Mr Wakley himself had suggested no remedy.

The conversation dropped soon after, and leave was given to Lord Granville Somerset to bring in the bills.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

On the motion to consider the Queen's speech, in order to granting a supply,

Mr COBDEN took the opportunity of raising a general conversation; regretting that no mention had been made in the speech of the existing agricultural distress. Last session he moved for a committee of inquiry on the subject. Wheat, which was then at 63s. per quarter, is now at 45s. 7d.; and yet members think themselves justified in leading their constituents to believe that parliament can secure a certain price for corn. He attributed that distress to the system of prohibition; others, to the insufficiency of protection—a difference, whatever side was in the right, which ought to be cleared up by the House. He had reason to believe, from a private conversation with Mr Miles, that the honourable member would agree to a committee of inquiry; and he invited him to do so, without waiting for the sanction of government. If Mr Miles did not acquiesce, in ten days or a fortnight he should renew the motion that he made last session.

Mr MILES thanked Mr Cobden for his courtesy, but thought the proper way would be to obtain the

consent of government. He and his friends had no intention of asking government for any such committee; nor are the farmers in a condition that would render them likely to come and ask it. He should rather fear, and must altogether decline, the alliance proposed by Mr Cobden; and, if the honourable member did obtain the committee, he begged the honourable gentleman not to put him upon it.

Mr MILNER GIBSON spoke in favour of a committee of inquiry; Mr BANKS opposed it.

Mr BRIGHT said that certain hon. gentlemen whom he saw opposite had taken upon themselves to be counsel for the farmers, whose defenders they pretended to be both out of doors and in doors. Now he confessed that the conduct of those hon. gentlemen in that House for several sessions past had appeared to him to be rather hollow in its character. They complained that the legislation of that House was the cause of the present agricultural distress. Why, they were parties to that legislation, and they carried by a large majority the measure to which they attributed that distress. If, then, the distress had been occasioned by their own legislation, the farmers had at least this claim to make on those hon. members who had voted for that measure—namely, that they should either retract their steps, and by inquiry find out the right path, or that they should go home to their counties, reduce their rents, and endeavour to relieve as much as in them lay the distress which their measures had brought upon their constituents.

He must say that he looked upon the constant refusal to inquire into the causes of distress with very great suspicion, and he believed that the country was too much alive to the matter to let it rest where it was [hear, hear, hear]. The Right Hon. Baronet had been particularly cautious to avoid anything that could be constructed into a guarantee for a fixed price; yet what had been the conduct of hon. gentlemen opposite [hear, hear]? Why, they had endeavoured to make the guarded expression of the minister appear as a certain promise to the farmer [hear, hear]. Their stewards, their land agents (the men whom they paraded at their meetings as farmers), had told their tenants invariably that the minister had guaranteed to maintain the price of wheat at 56s. a quarter, and so generally prevalent had the delusion become that magistrates had actually assessed property to the poor rate on that understanding [hear, hear]. The same thing had been paraded at all their meetings—at the London taverns, at the Freemasons' hall, and at 17, Bond street, places where, as he (Mr Bright) thought, instead of having the words, "Protection to the farmer" blazoned over the doors, a much more appropriate motto would be, "Farmers taken in and done for" ["hear, hear," and general laughter]. It really was time that the opposition so long exercised by the landlords should come to an end [hear, hear]. Let them take oats, for example. By their own law, intended to protect the farmer, they kept out the very articles of food upon which their cattle lived. How came it, then, that the manufacturers had something like prosperity without protection, whilst the other party were plunged in distress [hear]? The process had been described as something like the action of two buckets in a well—the manufacturers were going up rather fast, and the agriculturists were going down rather empty [laughter]—and that had been the process ever since the war, when they undertook to regulate the price of corn [hear]. The Right Hon. Baronet (continued the hon. member) is not without ambition; nor could he be great were he without it; and he well knows on what the prosperity of the country is founded, and on what it must be maintained. He knows it is not by the besotted system through which the agricultural population—miserable wretches as they are—are rendered paupers. When only recently in Bucks, the first thing that met my eye was a field covered with ant-hills, so that you could scarcely have discovered a track clear of them; and this was "protected ground" [hear]. Well, not far off, near Aylesbury, the second object that presented itself to my sight (and one harmonising admirably with the other) was the multitudinously chimined workhouse. Yes; there was the badly-tilled soil, and the labourers who might have cultivated it were in that workhouse [cries of "hear" from both sides of the House]. And so dissatisfied are they, too, that not a week passes without some of them being brought before the magistrates and sent to gaol. Now, you on the other side have never told the House these things. I might have sat here session after session, till I was as old as some members opposite [a laugh]—and never have heard you speak of the desperate condition of your rural population [hear]. Not long ago, near Salisbury, a member of the Gorn Law Association there, told me he would rather at once have free trade than that the farmers should be humbugged longer by the landlords as they had been. Is it not time, then, that this state of things should be put an end to? There is a population growing up, and no employment commensurate with their increase. The competition of labour is prodigious, and the consequent destitution is a disgrace to the legislature and the landowners. Yet you make a law to shut out competition from yourselves, leaving the humblest and the most defenceless class—your labourers—to the most terrible competition it is possible to conceive [hear, hear, hear]. I have no hope of convincing you. Leaders of parties are seldom convinced. But there is spreading among your tenants a feeling of dissatisfaction and suspicion [hear]—the last which I should wish to see spreading among them [an ironical cry from the ministerial benches]. Make it a virtue even to be magnanimous in the hopelessness of your case, and endeavour to relinquish with more than the show—I trust with the reality—of virtue, a law which has inflicted tremendous evil on your country, and of which I predict that if you persist in pressing it upon the people, as you have "sown the wind, you will assuredly reap the whirlwind" [cheers].

Mr S. O'BRIEN observed, that he was prepared not only to vote for such a committee as Mr Cobden had recommended, but also to serve upon it, if it were appointed. He sharply attacked Mr Bright:—

He (Mr S. O'BRIEN) ventured to predict that when Mr Bright had been a little longer in the House, he would learn that to get into a passion and make a sort of bullying speech, was not the way to deal with the gentry of England [hear, hear]. If the honourable member, by such

vituperation and abuse, hoped to prejudice the tenantry of England against their landlords, he never was more miserably mistaken [hear]. He was certain that among the labouring population of the country there was too much that tended to pauperism—too much that tempted to crime [hear]. But the landed gentry had on all occasions proved themselves the real friends of the poor [ironical cheers from the opposition]. Yes (continued the honourable member emphatically), and the poor know it, and believe it, and will believe it; and though you have a thousand times denied it, you might just as well have been all the while at Botany bay.

Sir ROBERT PEEL declared that he would not be drawn into this unexpected discussion upon the corn laws, which had been brought on without any regular notice. He made several pleasant allusions to Mr Cobden's proposal, for a coalition between himself and his friends on the one side, and Mr Miles and the supporters of the agricultural interest on the other, for the purpose of forcing the government into conceding a committee on agricultural distress. Mr Cobden had offered Mr Miles and his party a week or a fortnight for the consideration of his project; and he (Sir R. Peel) thought that his hon. friends would have acted more prudently had they taken advantage of the delay which was offered them, and had so saved the House from a long and unexpected debate. They had, however, committed themselves, and must now take the consequences of their own candour and frankness. The conduct of Mr Cobden, and of the gentleman who followed him, was full of courtesy, and therefore he listened with the more regret to the vituperation and taunts which Mr Bright had thrown out against the landlords of England. He assured Mr Gibson—who had ventured, it appeared, to take upon himself the responsibility of speaking for him—that he had not had any communication with the Protection Society, and that he had not given to any person assurances on the subject of the corn laws contrary to those which he had publicly made in that house. It could not be stated with truth that the agricultural interest generally were suffering distress.

I do not deny agricultural distress; but if you look at parts of the country and consider how agriculture has suffered from physical causes—from the complete failure of the hay crop and the turnip crop, and from the extraordinary drought which prevailed last year, it is, I think, impossible to deny that in some districts there has been agricultural distress on account of those natural causes, and that I deeply deplore—but I distinctly state, that I do not think there is any degree of agricultural distress that can be fairly attributed to the operation of the law that was introduced by me three years ago [hear, hear]. I do not believe that the change of the corn laws has been the cause of agricultural distress—and I feel bound to state that I cannot look to parliament for a remedy for that distress in further legislation in that respect [hear, hear]. I think the restoration of protection is impossible; and, even if it were possible, I should not sanction the re-establishment of increased protection as a remedy for that distress which, I admit, prevails in some parts of the country, but which I attribute to natural causes [hear, hear].

Lord J. MANNERS said, that the tone and temper evinced by Mr Cobden and Mr M. Gibson led him to indulge in the hope, that the time was not far distant when there might be a union of all parties in that house on behalf of the labouring poor [hear].

After a few words from Mr BROTHERTON, the discussion dropped, the formal business was agreed to, and the House adjourned.

Friday, February 7th.

SUPPLY.

That part of the Queen's speech which relates to increased naval estimates having been read, the House went into committee of supply.

On the motion that a supply be granted to her Majesty, Mr HUME objected, that the financial statement ought to be heard before making such a grant; with some economical arguments for reduced expenditure. Sir ROBERT PEEL said, that before taking a vote the reasons why the amount of supply was demanded would be fully stated. Lord JOHN RUSSELL thought that it was a perfectly legitimate course for her Majesty's ministers to state, at as early a period of the session as possible, the amount of revenue they conceived to be necessary for the public service, and then to state the means by which they intended to meet that demand. Mr HUME said, the noble lord's suggestion was contrary to what he would do in the management of his own private affairs. The affairs of the nation ought to be conducted on the same principle as those of a private individual, and if they did not do so they would spend more than they could pay. Mr S. CRAWFORD was happy to find the House adopting a suggestion he had made to it ["Hear, hear," and a laugh]. He begged to say, that two years ago he had moved the suspension of the estimates until after the financial statements had been made. He did not intend to offer any opposition to the right hon. gentleman.

The CHAIRMAN then reported progress, and the House resumed.

PRIVATE BUSINESS—RAILWAYS.

Mr YOUNG moved to suspend, for the present session, the standing orders limiting the time for receiving private bills, with a view to the arrangement suggested by Lord Howick. Mr ENTWISTLE objected, that the proposed arrangement would unjustly entail the expenses of delay on those railway companies whose projects are favourably reported; and he moved, as an amendment, that the standing order be not suspended. After a short discussion, however, he withdrew the amendment; and a series of resolutions, proposed by Mr YOUNG, were agreed to. They leave private bills, in general, under the same arrangements as before. The following are those which relate to railways:—

"That this House will not receive any petition for any railway bill later than the twenty-first day after the day on which the report for the railway department of the Board of Trade, with reference to such railway, has been laid on the table of the House."

"That no railway bill shall be read the first time later than the twenty-eighth day after the day on which the report of the railway department of the Board of Trade, with reference to such railway, has been laid on the table of the House."

"That this House will not receive the report of any railway bill, later than the eighty-fourth day after the day on which the report from the railway department of the Board of Trade, with reference to such railway, has been laid on the table of the House."

Sir ROBERT PEEL made a request of Mr Wallace. That member had a notice on the paper for a select committee to inquire into the present mode of conducting private business before committees of the House, with a view to improvement; Sir Robert thought that better arrangements ought to be made for private business, especially in reference to the great number of railway bills coming before parliament; and he asked Mr Wallace to postpone his motion, in order that the necessary arrangements might be made for a committee to revise the whole matter. Mr WALLACE gladly assented.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHEAP TRAVELING ON RAILWAYS.—In reply to Mr Wallace, on Wednesday, Mr Gladstone stated, the companies which come within the provisions of the Railway act of last session in reference to third-class trains with carriages protected from the weather and fares at 1d. a mile (comprising nearly all the railway companies in the country), have almost all complied with those provisions; and the purpose which the House had in view, the accommodation afforded to the humbler classes, has been fully attained.

From the report of the Grand Junction Railway company it appeared that the plan had been adopted, and that, without any injury worth mentioning to the receipts of the company, 2,500 passengers per week of the poorer class had gone by the third-class conveyance, who could not under the former system have availed themselves of that mode of traveling. On the Birmingham line 48,300 poor persons had been conveyed in three months, which was at the rate of 193,000 per year. The number previously conveyed in a year was 65,000, so that there had been an increase of about threefold in the number of the poorer passengers conveyed by third-class carriages. These facts would show the great extent of accommodation afforded to the poor by this new arrangement.

BOROUGH OF DARTMOUTH.—A petition was presented on Wednesday evening from Mr Moffatt, complaining of the return made for this borough.

MORTALITY AMONG THE TROOPS.—On Thursday, Mr HUME presented a petition signed by 1,240 inhabitants of Reading. They called the attention of the House to the great mortality which took place amongst our troops residing in our colonies and foreign possessions, and praying that our troops should not again be sent to such places. The hon. member said, that though he did not refuse to present a petition respectfully signed, yet he did not wish to be understood as advocating its prayer.

BANKING IN SCOTLAND.—Mr Macaulay asked whether he had rightly interpreted some words that fell from Lord Wharmcliffe, as meaning, that in the proposed changes it was not intended to interfere with the one-pound note circulation of Scotland? Sir Robert Peel declined to explain any details until he should introduce his measure; and begged that inferences might not be drawn—not even from his silence.

ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.—Sir James Graham announced (in reply to Sir G. Grey) that he had no hope of bringing in any bill for the regulation of ecclesiastical courts which would be satisfactory to the present parliament.

TAHITI.—Sir George Grey asked for the production of the correspondence which had taken place between the British and French governments on the question of Tahiti. Sir R. Peel declined to make public the entire correspondence, on the ground that it contained communications between naval officers of both countries of an irritating character; but he expressed himself willing to present the result of the negotiations—that is, the letter of M. Guizot and the answer of Lord Aberdeen.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.—Sir Robert Peel stated that the report on harbours of refuge had not yet received the deliberate consideration of the government, and he was not prepared lightly to recommend the expenditure of £2,500,000, or £3,000,000, without a more thorough consideration. It was in contemplation to improve the harbour of Holyhead, with a view to the communication between England and Ireland; but the other recommendations in the report, which were of great importance, were referred to the Admiralty, who would cause further investigations to be made.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—On Friday, Sir R. Peel gave notice that, when he made his financial statement in committee of ways and means, on Friday next, he should propose that the income tax in England, and the stamp duties in Ireland, should be continued for a further limited period [hear]. Until that time he declined to enter into any explanation.

THE WINDOW TAX.—On Monday Lord Duncan gave notice that, on Thursday, the 20th instant, he would move resolutions in a committee of the whole House, with the view to the repeal of the window tax, unless he should be forestalled in the meantime by the right hon. baronet at the head of the government.

IDOLATRY IN INDIA.—In reply to questions from Sir R. Inglis on this subject, Mr Baring said—The government did not possess any further information

as to what had been done in Madras on the subject, beyond what the hon. baronet was already aware of; but with respect to the proceedings in Bengal, he could state that a considerable estate, which had belonged to the temple of Juggernaut, had been restored to it, by which the annual sum of 60,000 rupees, heretofore paid to the temple, would be reduced to 36,000. Further steps would also be taken to prevent all connexion of the Indian government with the management of any sums of money or estates set apart for the promotion of Hindoo worship, and he had no doubt that the orders transmitted from home on the subject would be fully carried out.

DISSENSIONS IN THE CHURCH.—Viscount Ebrington presented a petition from Dr Carwithen, rector of Stoke Climsland, in the diocese of Exeter, praying for the repeal of the statutes 2 and 3 Edward VI., c. 1, and of 1 Eliz., c. 2, which, in the opinion of the petitioner, impede the exercise of discretion in the use of the rubric, under pains and penalties; and asking that the House will procure a calm and temperate review of the book of common prayer, rubrics, and canons of the church of England. He also presented one or two other petitions on the same subject.

NEW WRITS.—On Friday a new writ was issued for the county of Buckingham, in the room of Mr C. S. Murray, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds; and on Monday for Lewes, in the place of the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, who has been appointed a lord of the admiralty.

NOTICES OF MOTION have, as is usual at the early part of the session, been very numerous. Mr Bowring has given notice of his intention to move for a committee upon the state of the colonial accounts, and the best means of improving the system under which they were kept. Mr Mackinnon has given notice that on the 18th inst he will call the attention of the House to the necessity of taking measures for the promotion of the health of towns, by preventing the interment of the dead within their precincts. On the 20th he is to move for leave to bring in a bill to prohibit the nuisance of smoke from furnaces and factories. Mr Ewart has given notice, that he will, at an early period, move for leave to bring in a bill "to enable town councils to establish museums of art in corporate towns;" and also that he will shortly move for leave to bring in a bill, "enabling the defendant's counsel in civil, and the prisoner's counsel in criminal cases, to address the jury on the close of evidence for the prisoner or defendant." On Thursday evening, Sir James Graham notified that, in connexion with medical reform, he should, on Tuesday se'nnight, move for leave to bring in a measure "to enable her Majesty to grant new charters to certain colleges of physicians and surgeons."

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, Feb. 10th.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE, having laid upon the table the statement showing the operation of the new tariff, stated, that on Thursday next he should be prepared to lay before their lordships the first report of the railway committee of the Board of Trade, which embraced all the railways comprised within the south-eastern district; and, as there existed considerable misapprehension in the public mind with respect to the jurisdiction and the proceedings of the Board of Trade, he should submit to the House the views entertained by the government on the extent of jurisdiction of the railway committee.

The Lord CHANCELLOR announced that he had, together with the deputation of their lordships' House, waited upon her Majesty with their lordships' address, and that he had received the following most gracious answer:—

"This renewed assurance of your dutiful loyalty, and of your attachment to my throne, is received by me with the sincerest satisfaction. I rely on your efforts to promote the happiness and contentment of my people."

The Lord CHANCELLOR, in answer to Lord Campbell, intimated his intention of bringing in a bill to enable parties to be bailed pending writs of error; and he is directing his attention to the subject of the alleged defect in the law of Ireland as to the challenge to the array, with the view of ascertaining if there exist a wrong, and if so, what remedy is requisite.

Lord MONTEAGLE moved for returns illustrative of our financial condition, and made a few observations on the subject. A notion prevailed that government were about to substitute direct for indirect taxation. If so, it would require mature deliberation on the part of parliament. With the present diminished productive power of our customs and excise, no government could afford to dispense with the property-tax. Drawing his information from the recently issued parliamentary document, illustrative of the operations of the new tariff, he pointed out that where it had proceeded on correct principles it had worked beneficially, but when otherwise, the reverse. Under the Sugar Duties act of last session, slave-grown sugar, which it was framed to exclude, had come in, while no foreign free-grown sugar had arrived.

The Duke of WELLINGTON could not go into the subject then, but the government would afford ample means of information, in order to judge of their measures.

THE LOYALTY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—At two o'clock on Thursday there were only twenty-seven members present in the House of Commons, and it was only by the greatest exertion, and in consequence of sending to the different members' residences in the vicinity, that a sufficient number were collected, with the aid of recruits from the courts of law, to make a house to proceed with the address to her Majesty; and a considerable delay occurred in their arrival at the palace, where the cabinet ministers were all in waiting.—Times.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, Feb. 10, 1844.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at their rooms, 37, Waterloo street, on Monday; Mr Sturge in the chair.

The Secretary reported that the arrangements had been completed for holding the special meeting of the Council, and the quarterly general meeting of the Union, on Monday next, the one at three, the other at seven o'clock.

The following is the address on American slavery, passed at last meeting:—

"The National Complete Suffrage Union of Great Britain and Ireland to the Abolitionists and all other Citizens of the United States of America.

"In your 'Declaration of Independence' you announce the great truth, 'All men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights,' amongst which are 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' And yet American citizens hold the inhuman doctrine that man can hold property in man, and claim the servitude of nearly three millions of their fellow countrymen as slaves. You maintain in your constitution that to secure and protect the inalienable rights of American citizens, such as 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' governments have been instituted amongst men; and yet the government of America not only tolerates, but upholds slavery—in some of her states enacts and enforces laws under which every citizen who aids a brother to escape from the bondage of his fellow man becomes liable to be branded as a criminal, imprisoned for any length of time, or visited with an ignominious death.* As a nation, such are your declarations of great principles, and such the terrible deeds which America perpetrates in the name of freedom!

"We address you thus plainly and faithfully as well for your own sakes as for the sake of the cause of freedom, with which, as a public organisation, we are immediately identified.

"We address you for your own sakes, because while America tolerates slavery she can never enjoy the blessings of Divine Providence. For a time you may seem to prosper, but slavery is a worm which will eat like a canker into the very root of your prosperity.

"We address you for the sake of the common cause of freedom. In this country we have no slavery; but we are otherwise oppressed, and seek to deliver our fellow-countrymen from the bondage of class legislation. For years it has been our duty and our privilege to contend, on their behalf, for the right of the elective franchise to every male citizen of 21 years of age, above five millions of whom are unjustly deprived of it. On abstract grounds, or as a question of abstract right, we have now comparatively little to contend against, it being very generally admitted, that no man ought to be compelled to obey laws he had no voice in making, or pay taxes imposed without his consent; but when we demand that the abstract principle should be practically acknowledged, we are continually reminded of the democracy of America as upholding slavery, and your guilt deeply injures the cause of universal freedom. Not that the basis of truth and justice, on which the principles for which we contend rest, can thereby be shaken, but because those whose interest it is to maintain the ascendancy of exclusive power, are ever ready, and oftentimes but too successful with the unthinking and the timid, in determining the value of our theory by your practice. But not only does America, as a nation, hold the doctrine that man can be the property of man, she makes the slave, as property, the basis of representation. In the last Congress, it appears 25 members sat in virtue of their property in slaves, while 100 representatives of the slave states are the representatives of slavery, and possess the entire political control of these states.† To use the language of one of your most enlightened citizens, 'You are thus crushing the very spirit of liberty and the supreme regard of the rights of man.' We appeal to you to do to your brethren in bonds what imperative justice demands, and raise them to that position in society which is their birthright, and which, by your constitution, they have a perfect right to claim. While we hold America pre-eminently guilty as a nation of upholding the enormous crime of slavery, we rejoice to know that a large and influential portion of her citizens are zealously endeavouring to wipe that guilt away. With those who are thus devotedly labouring to release their brethren in bonds we warmly and affectionately sympathise.

"Abolitionists of America! we look to your efforts with anxious hope, and hail with delight the proposal you have announced of holding an anti-slavery convention at Washington. The moral effect of a convention held at the very seat of government, and having for its object the deliverance of your nation from the guilt and responsibility of slavery, would effectually serve the cause of freedom in every part of the world. Citizens of America! we again solemnly appeal to you to wipe from your statute book the inhuman and revolting law of slavery. If you still refuse to do so, who can but tremble for the consequences that may ensue? Wilful perseverance in crime always implies terrible

* Witness the case of Captain Walker, who was branded in the hand, fined, imprisoned, and exposed to the indignity of standing in the pillory—of Miss Webster, who has been condemned to imprisonment for two years—of the Rev. Mr Torrey, who has been condemned to imprisonment for seven years—of Messrs Thompson, Wright, and Barr, who have been already imprisoned for three years towards a sentence of twelve—and of John L. Brown, who was sentenced to death—all for no other crime than having aided, or being suspected of aiding, slaves to escape.

† See report of the Anti-slavery Convention held at London in June, 1843.

retribution, but our hope and expectation are, that you will yet feel it to be your duty to 'unloose the bonds of the oppressor, and let the captives go free.'

"(Signed) JOSEPH STURGE, President.
"Birmingham, 2nd mo., 3rd, 1845."

LEICESTER COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—The monthly meeting was held at the Town hall, on Tuesday; Mr Vicars (town councillor) in the chair. After some conversation upon the apathetic state of the cause throughout the country, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr Parker, seconded by Mr Finn, to invite Mr W. Linwood (unitarian minister), of Mansfield, to deliver a lecture. Mr Alfred Collier remarked, that there appeared to be, in some quarters, a disposition to relax, on account of the franchise movement of the League; as though the addition of a few thousands to the constituency, an excellent thing as far as it went, would warrant a neglect of the claims of the unrepresented millions. He was jealous of anything approaching to a deviation on the part of complete suffragists from the integrity of their principles, or their onward progress in their course. And in order that Leicester, at least, might stand clear with the country, he thought it right to move—

"That this Association observes with pleasure the county franchise movement of the Anti-corn-law League, as recognising the principle of the necessity of a more extended constituency for the realisation of their object; but that this Association sees, in this movement, no reason to relax in its efforts for the political emancipation of the people at large."

Mr Finn (one of the committee of the Working Men's Anti-corn-law Society) seconded the motion; and Mr Parker (who is secretary of that society) having expressed his concurrence, it was unanimously agreed to.

FINSBURY COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—The monthly meeting of this association was held on Thursday last, the 6th inst. On this occasion the members assembled, for the first time, in their new rooms, No. 73, Goswell road, near the Angel, Islington. The subject for the evening's discussion was the Queen's speech, which was critically analysed by the several gentlemen who successively spoke. General satisfaction was expressed by the members present with their new place of meeting. It is far more eligible than their former rooms, as being more publicly situated, and in a more central part of the borough. The committee have opened a reading room for the use of the members and the public. Besides a well-selected library, the table is furnished with the *Nonconformist*, *Times*, *Advertiser*, *Punch*, *Edinburgh Review*, *Eclectic*, *Tait's Magazine*, *Jerrold's Magazine*, and other periodicals. For all this the charge made is only sixpence per month. We sincerely hope that the undertaking will meet with all the encouragement it deserves.

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.

The United States Congress was, according to the last advices, absorbed in the discussion on the various projects for the annexation of Texas; but no progress had been made in the matter. The general impression was, that the session would pass over without the measure receiving the sanction of even the democratic House of Representatives; and the committee on foreign affairs in the Senate had refused to report to the Senate until the House had taken some definite "action" thereon, that is, either by passing a proposition for the admission of Texas, or by refusing to do so. Three additional projects on the subject have been offered in Congress. The proceedings of the various state legislatures in connexion with the subject, having in recollection the accounts previously received, show much diversity of opinion. The Upper House of the Maine legislature had rejected, by a vote of twenty-four to seven, resolutions advocating the annexation of Texas, and had referred to a select committee that portion of the message of the Governor relating to Texas. The New York Senate had also declined sanctioning the measure. A convocation of the people of Massachusetts to deliberate upon the question was to meet on the 29th ult.

The commissioner appointed by Massachusetts to test, before judicial tribunals, the constitutionality of the laws prohibiting the entrance into Louisiana of free persons of colour has, it appears, been compelled to leave New Orleans, the Creole population being so much excited as to render the city too hot for him.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* gives the following piece of information:—"With the exception of South Carolina, we have now complete returns of the votes given at the late presidential election. They are as follows:—

For Mr Polk	1,327,323
For Mr Clay	1,288,533
For Mr Birney (abolition)	62,263
Whole number of votes in the ———	
United States	2,678,119

The abolitionists are generally whigs. Two-thirds of their votes given to Mr Clay would have elected him. They have, therefore, by a separate organisation, elected Mr Polk."

Pennsylvania almost certainly will pay her February interest on the state debt. The House of Representatives have, by a unanimous vote, instructed their senators, and requested their representatives in Congress, to oppose any reduction of the present tariff.

FRANCE.

The Paris papers have been principally taken up with commentaries on the Queen's speech, and the

debate thereon. The ministerial journals are quite satisfied with that portion of it which refers to the visit of King Louis Philippe to her Majesty. The opposition papers display a directly opposite feeling.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Friday, M. de St Priest brought forward a proposition for the modification of the postage on letters. M. de St Priest proposed two objects:—

First, the establishment of a nearly uniform rate of postage; and, secondly, the reduction of the charge on all sums sent through the Post office from five to two per cent. He proposed that from the 1st of January, 1846, a tax of six sous should be levied on all letters carried more than forty kilometres, and four sous for all shorter distances.

M. Monier de la Sizeranne proposed, as an amendment, that the postage of all letters not weighing more than a quarter of an ounce, for whatever distance, should be only four sous. After a discussion, in which the Minister of Finance strongly opposed the proposition, principally on financial grounds, the Chamber divided upon M. Monier de la Sizeranne's amendment, which, after two doubtful trials, was adopted by a majority of one, the numbers being—for the amendment, 130: against it, 129. On Saturday the discussion of the measure was resumed, when the bill was rejected, the numbers on both sides being equal.

Two iron steamers, intended for Oceania, are now being armed at Bordeaux. They are to be commanded by lieutenants of the royal navy. These vessels are the *Australie*, of 160-horse power, and the *Pingouin*, of 70. The transport corvette *La Seine* was shortly to be launched at Rochefort, and the Minister of Marine had ordered that vessel to be immediately rigged and equipped for a circumnavigating voyage for three years.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland mail, which brings advices from Bombay to the 1st of January, contains but little intelligence of interest. It chiefly relates to the sequel of events in the state of Kholapore. The last accounts left Colonel Ovens, the newly-appointed political agent, a prisoner in the fort of Punalla, which was joined to the fort of Pawunghur by a long neck of rocks; both constituting very strong fortresses. The fort of Punalla was invested by General De la Motte, with a strong force, on the 22nd of November; and on the same day, after a sharp contest, the outworks were taken. Colonel Hickes fell in the assault, mortally wounded; both his legs having been shattered by a cannon ball. Colonel Ovens was urged, under threats of death, to use his influence with the besiegers in favour of the besieged; but he refused; and some would have fulfilled the threats. Nevertheless, better counsels prevailed; and on the 29th he was permitted to join his friends. On the morning of the 1st of December a breach was effected in the wall of the fort; it was gallantly stormed, and in an hour was in possession of the British. The natives escaped to the adjoining fort; but their pursuers followed so close that the barricades could not be closed, and the fort of Pawunghur also remained in the hands of the British, with 2,000 prisoners. The task of dismantling the works at once commenced. Subsequently, three smaller forts of Kholapore were taken. Colonel Ovens did not long enjoy his post; he was removed "for reasons only surmised by those desiring to disseminate unfounded charges;" and Mr Reeves, the original political agent, was reinstated.

Disturbances continued in the little state of Sawunt Warrec, and the British troops detached to keep down anarchy had been reinforced.

The sickness in Scinde continued to diminish, though there were still "nearly 3,000 in the hospital." Sir Charles Napier was at Larkhana, contemplating an assault on Dadur fort, at the foot of the Bolan Pass; which had fallen into the hands of the contumacious Nusseer Khan, and near which the irregular horse, under Captain Taite, were cut to pieces.

Sir Henry Hardinge was still at Calcutta, receiving the unanimous praises of a press seldom unanimous, for his peaceful labours in promoting native education.

The latest news from Macao is dated 25th of October; a brief announcement that the treaty of commerce between France and China was signed on board the *Archimedes*, at Whampoa, on the 24th. Fuller accounts to the 19th of November represent the country as quiet, trade as dull, and Governor Davis of Hong Kong as getting into "hot water" with the British merchants, by some unpopular ordinances.

TAHITI.

Private letters, to the 3rd of November, from Valparaiso, bring us the latest news from Tahiti. The French Admiral Hamelin had arrived at Valparaiso, on board the *Virginie*, and was about to sail to Tahiti, it was said, with presents for Queen Pomare, and probably with the intention of restoring her. The natives at Tahiti still continue their resistance, and had reduced the people at Papeite to great straits for provisions, which were abundant elsewhere. M. Bruat, no longer making war from the cannon's mouth, had recourse to the pen, and was, as usual, vilifying the English, and declaring that the naval officers of the *Thalia* were getting up protests amongst the natives, to be sent to England. There is much use in protests addressed from the Tahitians to our government; and we are confident that the officers of the *Thalia* do not condescend to such things. M. Bruat has published in his *Océanie Française* a long account of a fête given him by a Tahitian in Papeite, at which he declares the British

consul, Miller, was present. Our correspondent, however, states that Mr Miller was not present. — *Chronicle*.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

SLAVERY.—THE SOURCE OF POWER.—It may be well to know where we stand on the question of annexation, not only as regards the morals, but also the political power of the country. What would the slave states be if the free white basis had been the rule? Let us see—the following tables, made from authentic sources, will exhibit the result:—

Free States	Pop.	Rep.	Slave States	Pop.	Rep.
New Hampshire ..	284036	6	Virginia ..	740968	17
Massachusetts ..	729030	12	North Carolina ..	484870	11
Rhode Island ..	106587	4	South Carolina ..	159084	9
Connecticut ..	301856	6	Georgia ..	307695	10
Vermont ..	291218	6	Alabama ..	335185	9
New York ..	2378890	30	Mississippi ..	179174	6
Ohio ..	1502129	23	Louisiana ..	158457	6
			Tennessee ..	640627	13
			Kentucky ..	590251	12
Total ..	5592739	87			
			Total ..	3597311	93
			Deficiency ..	1996428	
				5592739	

By this it appears that the free states named, with 1,996,428 free white majority of persons, have but the same electoral vote; and New York and Ohio, with only 39,187 less number of free white citizens than all the above slave states, and Missouri added, have in number 6 senators and 25 representatives less. But, as we wish to refer more especially to the effects of this question on citizens of Ohio, we present her comparative case by itself:—

Free States	Pop.	Rep.	Slave States	Pop.	Rep.
Ohio ..	1502129	21	Alabama ..	335185	7
Deficiency ..	90343		South Carolina ..	159084	7
			Georgia ..	307695	8
			North Carolina ..	484870	9
			Louisiana ..	158457	4
			Arkansas ..	77174	1
Total ..	1522465	21			
			Total ..	1522465	36

By this it appears that slave owners, or white citizens of the six slave states above, have, with only an increase of 20,343 people (less than a representative number), 10 more senators and 15 more representatives than have the citizens of Ohio. Now as to the compact, let it stand. But why should this sacrifice be again made? If the state of public affairs, at the adoption of the constitution, required this compromise, which secured these advantages to slave states, this necessity no longer exists, and self-respect, self-preservation, no less than the right of humanity, demand that it should not be submitted to. — *Cincinnati Gazette*.

CHRISTIANIA, JAN. 18.—The time for the third decision of the Storting on the affairs of catholic emancipation draws nigh: a third vote will be law. The government has asked the advice of the bishops and of the faculty of theology. The answers of both have been favourable to the catholics. Accordingly, the public worship of the catholics will be allowed; parents may educate the offspring of mixed marriages as they please; the state tax to protestant pastors will be abolished; and catholic priests may solemnise marriages. Thus the Scandinavians have reached the point of religious tolerance. — *Leipzig Gazette*.

THE ONE-HOUR RULE.—One of the rules adopted by the American House of Representatives at their last session, and continued during the present, is designated as the "one-hour rule." By this rule, no member is allowed to occupy the floor with a speech beyond one hour. The rule is rigidly enforced, to the advantage of gifted men, and to the great annoyance of another class, who vainly imagine their speeches are valuable in proportion to their length.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—A letter from St Petersburg, dated Jan. 21, says, "Yesterday the Emperor passed in review on the square of the Admiralty, all the garrison of the capital, and the troops quartered in the neighbourhood. The weather was exceedingly fine, and mild for the winter season. He was accompanied by the Grand Duke, his eldest son, the Grand Duke Constantine, his second son, the Grand Duke Michael, and the Duke de Deuchenberg. Notwithstanding the traces of suffering visible in his features, the Emperor's health appeared to be in no way affected."

DECORATED BY MISTAKE.—At the last distribution of orders, which annually takes place at Berlin on the 19th of January, the following curious incident took place:—It was intended to confer an order on the proprietor and common-councilman Hubner, but by mistake the letter of invitation was handed to another proprietor of the name of Hubner, who formerly kept a beer-shop. The man is astonished, and not being aware of possessing any particular merits, refuses to go to the palace. His wife, however, entreats him to accept the invitation, explaining to him that he must possess some hidden merits of which notice has been taken, as nobody gets an order without deserving it. The man consequently goes to the palace, dines at the royal table, allows himself to be decorated, is presented to the King, and returns home to his wife, who is fully convinced of his merits. Next day the business is explained, and the man is called upon to give back the order. This he refuses most positively to do; and will only give way if the King expressly commands him to do so. The Commission of Orders has held already several conferences on the subject, and probably it will become necessary to submit the decision to the King himself. — *German papers*.

GREAT INUNDATION IN CHINA.—The *Handelsblad*, of February 8th, has a private letter from Batavia of the 25th of October, 1844, which states that dreadful ravages have been caused by inundation in the north of China, and in the environs of Canton. Thousands and thousands of the inhabitants have perished, and the damage done is incalculable. The

mandarins do their utmost to conceal the particulars, fearing that if it come to the knowledge of the Emperor they may be made responsible for the giving way of the dikes. What we hear from private persons is dreadful, yet all these are trifling compared with what has occurred on the shore of the Yellow sea. These provinces are partly inundated, and the population, amounting to sixteen or seventeen millions, have lost almost all they possessed. The survivors, with their families, have dispersed over China as beggars. The high price of rice is an additional cause of distress.

DR WOLFF.—Letters from Erzeroum, dated the 3rd of December, announce the safe arrival there of this intrepid traveler, but in so debilitated a state of bodily health as to be unable to journey on horseback, and therefore he will probably be induced to avail himself for awhile of the hospitality of the British consul, Mr James Brant, in order to recruit his strength, before proceeding onwards to Trebizond, en route for Europe, especially as the intervening road is covered with snow, and the winter season this year unusually rigid.

LORD BROUGHAM AND HIS FRENCH FRIENDS.—The *Almanach du Mois* publishes the following anecdote relative to Lord Brougham:—"Our readers are aware that the English orators are not satisfied, as ours are, with a plain glass of sugar water, and that behind them is placed a tray containing drink more than refreshing, from the finest wines to the strongest liquors. The night upon which Lord Brougham delivered his celebrated speech in favour of the abolition of negro slavery, he had supplied himself, according to custom, with a large basket filled with bottles of the strongest wines. His speech lasted seven hours, and it was found necessary to replenish the basket. The gas lights began to grow pale in presence of the morning sun, and still the House of Commons was silent and attentive. All eyes were directed towards the speaker. He was seen to bend upon his knees, and to supplicate the British parliament with tears in his eyes to destroy slavery over the face of the globe. Never was so much emotion perceived in the assembly. The motion was carried in the midst of enthusiastic cheering. Who knows? another glass of wine, and perhaps the orator would have rolled over the benches, the sublime would have been turned into the ridiculous, and the negro race would have fallen into slavery."

SUBMISSION OF THE ROYAL COURT, JERSEY.—The States met on Tuesday and Wednesday, and discussed with closed doors the subject of Mr Wilson and the *habeas*. It was decided, after a rather stormy debate, that the writ should be obeyed under protest; and Mr Dupré, the solicitor-general, and Mr Godfray, constable of St Saviour's, were directed to proceed to London to represent the interests of the States and the Royal court. They will leave the island this day by the Monarch, and Mr Wilson will go in the same vessel. Colonel Le Couteur left this island, by the transit, on Wednesday last. — *Jersey Times*, of Feb. 7.

The *Singapore Free Press* gives currency to a report of the death of the Emperor of China.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert left town for the Pavilion at Brighton, at three o'clock on Friday. The royal party traveled by the Brighton railway, a special train having been ordered.

It is rumoured, and we believe upon sufficient authority, that the title of King-consort is about to be conferred upon his Royal Highness Prince Albert. This, we presume, would be preliminary to a demand for an increased grant. — *Chronicle*.

ROYAL VISIT TO ARUNDEL CASTLE.—We understand her Majesty has signified her gracious intention of honouring the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk with a visit at Arundel castle on Wednesday next (this day). — *Times*.

MOBBING THE QUEEN.—The *Times* gives the following account of her Majesty's treatment by the inhabitants of Brighton:—

Her Majesty walked to the chain pier on Saturday morning. With a view of enjoying a private walk, somewhat a novelty to royalty in a large town, her Majesty and Prince Albert, in plain dresses, her Majesty also wearing a veil, walked from the Castle square entrance of the palace to the pier. The royal pair gained the pier unobserved, and walked for nearly an hour, when they prepared to return. The fact that her Majesty was on the pier had, however, become known; and, as the Queen and Prince left the Esplanade, a considerable number of persons crowded round the toll-gate, and many of them followed her Majesty, as the Prince and herself walked towards the pavilion. As the royal pair approached Castle square, the crowd pressed forward more closely, and some errand boys rudely peered beneath her Majesty's bonnet. The Queen eventually escaped from her annoying followers by entering the palace by the private gates. This was about half-past ten; and half an hour later Major Allen, entering the Town hall where the magistrates were holding their sittings, spoke in warm terms of the outrage to which her Majesty had been subjected, and which, he said, if repeated, would have the effect of depriving the town of the honour of these occasional visits of royalty. He was authorised by Col. Buckley (her Majesty's equerry) to make this statement publicly; and he trusted that the police would find some means of protecting her Majesty from a repetition of the annoyance. Mr Chase, chief officer of the Brighton police, remarked that there were policemen connected with the palace. Major Allen rejoined, that her Majesty wished to be as private as possible, and disliked being under a guard of policemen. Mr Chase said he would then send policemen to the pier entrances whenever her Majesty repeated her visits. Major Allen said, that would be worse than doing nothing, for the presence of the policemen would be a signal for the crowd to assemble. Mr Chase said, he would then send out his men in plain clothes, and endeavour to prevent the annoyance being again experienced. Major Allen suggested, that the tradesmen of the town should be requested to prevent their boys from following her Majesty. The great-

est part of the annoyance this morning arose from some boys, with baskets on their arms, thrusting themselves almost below her Majesty's bonnet.

ILLNESS OF THE BISHOP OF ELY.—On Friday morning, very early, the venerable bishop of this diocese was found in an alarming state of illness, having had an attack of paralysis, which has rendered his life very precarious. He is somewhat better, but we are informed that faint hopes only are held out of his recovery from the attack. — *Norfolk News*.

THE REV. SYDNEY SMITH.—We have the greatest satisfaction in being enabled to relieve the anxiety which the reports put forth relative to the Rev. Sydney Smith's serious illness were calculated to excite. Mr Smith has been exceedingly unwell, but for the last six or seven days his recovery has been gradually progressing; and the answer to inquiries in Green-street was, that the rev. gentleman was going on well. — *Historical Register*.

Sir Robert Peel is adding to his mansion at Drayton Manor a picture gallery one hundred feet in length, for the reception chiefly of portraits of the most eminent men of the present day. His present collection of pictures at the Manor is already among the largest, if not the largest, of modern date in this country; and it is constantly being extended. The new gallery will be fitted up in the richest manner with carved oak and polished marble, now preparing. — *Standard*.

MR RUSSELL GURNEY, one of the sons of Mr Baron Gurney, has received an intimation from the Lord Chancellor, in reply to his application, that he will be called within the bar as one of her Majesty's counsel. — *Law Times*.

Sir Francis Doyle has been appointed assistant solicitor of the Excise, with a salary of £1,000 a year.

MORE MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—The scruples of Sir Edward Knatchbull prove too strong for the forthcoming ministerial measures. What can Sir Robert Peel be meditating? To be sure Sir Edward is to be raised to the peerage; or, shall we rather say, the peerage is to be lowered to Knatchbull. The new paymaster of the forces will be the Hon. Bingham Baring. A vacancy is thus created in the representation of Thetford. The vacancy in the secretaryship of the Board of Control, created by the promotion of Mr Baring, will be filled by Lord Jocelyn. Is Lord Ashley's motion to be an open question? — *Morning Chronicle*. [Mr Cardwell, the newly-appointed secretary of the treasury, has selected Mr Home Rushworth, of that department, to be his private secretary.]

PROPERTY TAX.—A person possessing £4,000 in any of the public funds, is exempt from the above tax, because his income on the interest on this sum is under £150 per annum. **INCOME TAX.**—A poor clerk, with a wife and family to support out of £3 per week, without a farthing beside, pays towards this unfair tax £4 7s. 6d.

THE MONEY ORDER OFFICE.—With a view of increasing the efficiency of this important branch of the Post office service, the Postmaster-general has sanctioned the appointment of four presidents for the Money Order office.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—It appears from a parliamentary paper just issued, that the amount of money raised in the year ending the 5th of January, 1845, by the creation of funded debt, was £18,844,000. Of this, £18,348,300 was raised on exchequer bills, and charged on supplies. The remainder was charged on the consolidated fund. The amount of exchequer bills issued for the promotion of public works, and included in the funded debt, was £14,000. The excess of income over expenditure for the year amounts to the large sum of £3,356,105 8s. 2d.; and the balances in the exchequer on the 5th of January, 1845, to £6,254,113 9s. 6d.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—A parliamentary paper was issued on Monday containing "accounts relating to the national debt," which was moved for by Mr Cardwell, M.P., and ordered to be printed by the House of Commons on Friday evening last. This return shows the results of the operations undertaken in the years 1822, 1824, 1825, 1830, 1834, and 1844, for reducing the charge on account of the national debt; and it appears that the annual interest on the funded debt saved thereby, amounts altogether to the sum of £3,051,800; of which the amount of £1,197,025 was saved by the reduction of the five per cents. to four per cents. in 1822; £11,539 by the reduction of the Bank of Ireland debt from 5 per cent. to 4 per cent. in the same year; £381,242 by the reduction of the old 4 per cents. to three-and-a-half per cents. at par, in the year 1824; £9,726, by the reduction of the five per cents., 1797, to three per cents. in 1824 and 1825; £753,952 by the exchange of the four per cents. for £100 of the three-and-a-half per cents., or £70 or five per cents., in the year 1830; £53,115 by the reduction of the four per cents., 1826, to three-and-a-half per cents. at par; £23,308 by the reduction of the Bank of Ireland debts, at 5 and 4 per cent., to 3½ per cent., by the 3rd and 4th Victoria, cap. 75, in 1841; and £621,893 by the reduction of the three-and-a-half per cents. at par to three-and-a-quarter per cents. until the 10th of October, 1854, by the new financial operation of last year. From 1854 they will be reduced to three per cents., and will not be liable to any further reduction until after the 10th of October, 1874 (vide act 7, Victoria, cap. 4 and 5). From another branch of the return, it appears that the total amount of the capital of the unredeemed funded debt amounted on the 5th of January, 1844, to £772,169,092, and the annual charge thereon to £28,516,882. In 1843 the capital amounted to £773,068,340, and the charge to £28,609,708. The amount of the capital of the unfunded debt in Ex-

chequer bills amounted, in the year ended the 5th of January, 1844, to £18,407,300, and the charge for interest in the same year to £594,051. In 1842 the capital was £18,182,100, and the interest £631,601. It follows, if the amounts of the funded and unfunded debt be added together, that the sum total of the national debt amounted on the 5th of January, 1844, to £790,576,392, and the total charge thereon to £29,110,933.

Postscript.

Wednesday, February 12th, 1845.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RAILWAYS were again the grand subject of discussion in the House of Commons last night.

Mr WALLACE introduced the subject by calling attention to the several reports of select committees on railways, to the appointment of the railway board in August last for the transaction of railway business, and the effect of its published decision, with a view to the revision and amendment of the act of last session. He complained, that by the present system the people of Great Britain were subject to a monopoly of the most grinding and injurious character. Admitting the courtesy with which he had been treated by President and Vice-president of the Board of Trade, and all their subordinate officers, he contended, that the appointment of the railway board was anything but constitutional, for it was never intended, on their appointment, that the members of the board should interfere with and decide upon all the internal arrangements for traveling in the United Kingdom. There were, at present, 248 railways, either new roads or roads to be altered and extended, on which bills were to be brought forward this session, and it was recently thought, but he was glad to say erroneously, that none of those bills could be introduced without a preliminary decision in their favour by the railway board. He complained also of the expense of transit on railroads, and read some tables of the fares, rates, and speed on two railroads in Scotland, for the purpose of showing that the labouring classes of England might be carried on their railroads as cheaply and with as much comfort as the same classes were now conveyed in Scotland. It has been shown that in first-class carriages passengers could be conveyed twenty-five miles an hour at 3d. a mile—that second-class passengers could be conveyed the same distance in their carriages at 2d. a mile—and that third-class passengers could be carried the same distance at 1d. a mile. He argued that, if such were the case, and he believed it to be nearly so, the present railway companies had no right to any indulgence from the House; for they had defrauded the public, and were defrauding it still. It was the duty of parliament to rectify the mistake which it made some years ago, when it gave a monopoly to these companies, and to insist that an open competition with them should be allowed. He thought that great good would be done by adopting the system of tender, which was adopted abroad. The House was bound to make provision that no carriages should be permitted to run on any railroad that was unsafe to the health of the passengers; and yet it was undeniable that no carriages were so pernicious to health as the second and third class carriages on most, if not all, of our modern railroads. He concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Railway act of last session.

Mr EWART pointed out the necessity of improving the constitution of parliamentary railway committees.

Lord HOWICK had voted for the railway act of last session, and thought that, though not a perfect, it was still a very useful act. He agreed, however, with Mr WALLACE, in thinking that it was important that parliament should secure for the public greater facilities and greater cheapness in railway traveling. As a great number of railway bills were about to be introduced this session, parliament ought seriously to consider at once what measures it would adopt to accomplish those objects.

He thought that the first thing on which parliament should determine was to do in all cases that which was always done in France on similar occasions—namely, to decide between competing companies on the line of railroad to be adopted; for instance, there were three lines now proposed between London and York. He thought that on such a point they might trust to the evidence of scientific persons to be appointed by the House. Then, having fixed on the line of the railroad, you might call on the rival companies to send in tenders for making it. Those tenders should contain the terms of traveling, the rates of speed, and the fares at which the parties would convey passengers. Thus the House would get rid of the difficulty of deciding on competing lines, and would check a spirit of gambling in railway shares which was absolutely demoralising the country. He thought that this plan would also cause a large reduction in the rate of fares, which at present very much exceeded the cost of carrying passengers. By laying down by parliamentary authority in the railway bills about to be introduced a strict regulation as to the rate of fares to be levied, they would bring down the fares exacted by all existing railroads, as they were now nearly all in union or conjunction with each other. They would also by such a course moderate the eagerness of enterprise in such speculations, which did not now, as it did originally, require a stimulant. On the contrary, he was of opinion that there was at present a mania in the public mind on this subject which required to be modified and checked. It might be said that it would be unjust, when parties had gone to all the trouble and expense of making preliminary inquiries about a line of railroad, to take it out of their hands. It would be so if no remuneration were made to them. But at present those parties had no claim on parliament. Parliament might be of opinion that a line should be made, and yet that those parties should not make it.

He trusted that no railway bill would be passed this session without the committee looking closely at the

table of fares, and proceeded to demonstrate the advantage of such an arrangement by his own experience as chairman of a railway committee last session. He had heard some persons insist on the necessity of deferring all railway legislation during the present session, in order that they might deliberate in the interim on the legislation which they ought to adopt. To such a proposition he could not agree, as it would carry a large amount of capital out of the country to be embarked in the meantime in foreign speculations.

Mr GIBBORNE could not vote for the repeal of the Railway act, though he had voted against the passing of it last session. He should not object so much to Lord HOWICK's project for deciding between competing lines, and for calling for tenders after that decision was made, if he saw how the parties who had originally made the necessary inquiries were to be remunerated. He proceeded to call in question the right of the railway department to take upon themselves the authority which they had assumed.

Mr WORTLEY and Mr WARBURTON considered Lord HOWICK's scheme impracticable in execution. Independently of the objection to it arising out of the impossibility of government making so many different surveys, it struck Mr Warburton that if the lowest tender were to be taken after the line was fixed on, government must enter into an obligation to give the parties offering that tender a monopoly for a certain period of years.

Sir R. PREL, after defending the railway department of the Board of Trade, proceeded to explain his views on the subject under discussion.

They had been told that 240 railway bills were to be presented to the House in the course of the present session; but he had no doubt that discussion would considerably diminish that number. The wisest course would be to appoint a committee to consider the subject, under the assumption that there would be an unusual number of such bills. An hon. friend of his had procured the assent of the House to a committee on private bills, which consisted of persons the most conversant in the House with the conduct of private business. He hoped that that committee would not apply itself, in the first instance, to the consideration of private bills generally, but would proceed to that of railway bills before all others, and would reflect on the manner in which the House should deal with the 150 such bills that were likely to come before it. It might be necessary to constitute a number of committees, of five or seven members each. The report of such committees, if the members would give continuous attendance, would have weight with the House; and, if so, the evil would not be of that magnitude as to induce them to despair of overcoming it.

He had never heard of Lord HOWICK's plan before that evening, but he thought that if the House undertook to consider it, it would lead to great confusion.

After a few remarks from Mr BROTHERTON and Mr DABY, Mr WALLACE consented to withdraw his motion.

THE LAW OF SETTLEMENT.—Sir James GRAHAM moved for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to parochial settlement and to the removal of the poor.

Since he had introduced the bill of last session, he had received many suggestions, which had enabled him to improve the measure, and to meet many serious and grave objections which had been started. The magnitude of the subject might be inferred from the facts, that one-tenth of our population, or 1,500,000 persons, received parochial relief, and that since 1815 no less a sum than two hundred millions, or one-fourth of the capital of the national debt, had been levied in poor rates—a sum wholly irrespective of all private charity. This expenditure was mainly based on the existing law of settlement, and in framing any measure for its re-adjustment, great and important changes would be requisite. Discussing several of the objections which had been raised against some of the provisions of the bill of last session, such as the temptation which would be held out to "clear estates," the danger of great and sweeping changes, and so forth, he proceeded to describe the measure as modified and amended by suggestion and reflection. The Registration act, with its machinery, now supplied a great desideratum in affording ample facilities for proof of birth; which he would make the only condition of settlement; but being of opinion, with Adam Smith, that the poor man, whose only capital was his labour, should no longer be confined to the narrow circle of parochial settlement, he would reduce the restraints on the poor. There were 14,500 of these parochial circles. Henceforth he would propose a union settlement, by which a larger sphere would be afforded, the 14,500 places of settlement be reduced to 620, and labour would thus be enabled to circulate more freely. He would not adhere to his former proposition of making five years of industrial residence a ground of irremovable settlement in the particular locality, as that would press unequally on the towns, as compared with the rural districts, but he would guard removals by many limitations, which he stated in detail, which he trusted would have the effect of ameliorating the condition of the poor, removing many evils to which they were exposed, and diminishing litigation.

The remaining business of the House was unimportant.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS sat but for a short time last night, and entered upon no business of interest. A conversation relative to the desirableness of originating measures in their lordships' house—which the Duke of Wellington declared to be impossible, except in two instances, during the present session—and an attack on the bankruptcy commissioners by Lord Brougham, were the only matters which were brought under their notice. The House adjourned at a quarter after five o'clock.

HENRY VINCENT IN THE METROPOLIS.—Last night (Tuesday), notwithstanding the extreme cold, and a somewhat heavy charge for admission, rendered necessary by the expenses incurred, this talented and veteran champion of universal freedom drew a

numerous and highly respectable audience, at the Eastern institution, Commercial road, to hear him discuss the question of the necessity for a "full, fair, and free representation of the people," in order to secure religious, political, and commercial freedom. We were happy to observe that the east, the west, the north, and the south, sent their representatives to be present on the occasion—Grosvenor square, Highbury park, and Southwark, contributed to augment its numbers; and we are sure, from the enthusiasm displayed, that those who then heard Mr V. for the first time will not fail to avail themselves of the very next opportunity presented to enjoy the high gratification again.

Mr Godson, Q.C., has been appointed, by the lords of the Admiralty, counsel to the Admiralty.

REPRESENTATION OF LEWES.—Mr Fitzroy is again a candidate for the representation of this borough; and we hear that he is to be opposed by a League candidate.—Times.

PROJECTED RAILWAYS.—Last night's Gazette contains the decision of the railway department of the Board of Trade, in favour of the Bolton, Wigan, and Liverpool railways, and of schemes proposed by the Liverpool and Manchester company; and the Board have decided on reporting in favour of the Patricroft and Clifton branches, the Parkside branch, the Extensions into Liverpool, and against the St Helens and Rufford branch; and, having further had under consideration the Trent Valley railway scheme, the Board have decided on reporting to parliament in favour of the said scheme, with the exception of the Potteries and Alrewas branches, the postponement of which, until a future period, will be recommended.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD AND THE TRACT No. 90.—OXFORD, TUESDAY.—At nine o'clock yesterday evening, the proctors announced to the Vice-chancellor their intention to exercise their right of veto, and negative the proposed decree respecting the tract No. 90, which was to have been submitted to Convocation on Thursday next. The short notice for so important a measure is said to be the reason which has induced the proctors to take this step. The university has been to-day almost bewildered by the multitude of publications on each side of the question, the advocates of Mr Ward's deprivation having sent out four or five pamphlets, and that gentleman's supporters replying by at least an equal number. Mr Gladstone, M.P., and Dr Hook will, it is said, attend Convocation, and register their votes against the proposed measure for degrading Mr Ward.

STAMFORD ELECTION.—It appears that Sir George Clerk was placed in a very unpleasant position at the election on Monday, in consequence of his hostility to the railway which is to pass through the town. He was pelted with snow balls on the hustings and at the charring, in addition to being saluted with the hootings of a mob wherever he went. A strong party of special constables had great difficulty in keeping the peace.

DESTRUCTION OF THE PORTLAND VASE.—The young man, whose name was given as William Lloyd, was brought up again yesterday, before Mr Jardine, at Bow street. He still declined giving his name, and gave the following explanation of his reasons for committing the act:—"I had been indulging in intemperance for several days, from the effects of which I was only partially recovered when I entered the Museum; and being consequently in a nervous state of excitement, I was afraid of everything I met with, and under such impression I acted in the manner I have done, and for which I was then taken into custody; but I did not commit the act through any design or evil intention whatever towards any one." He subsequently said:—"Whatever punishment you feel it your duty to inflict upon me, I shall feel the consolation that it is deserved." As there appeared some difficulty as to ascertaining the value of the vase, the prisoner was charged only with destroying the glass case under which it was placed. Mr Jardine ordered him to pay £3, the value of the case, and in default be committed to hard labour in the house of correction for two calendar months. The prisoner was then removed from the bar, and subsequently conveyed to gaol.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association took place, on Monday, in the Conciliation hall, which was very much crowded. Mr R. D. Browne and Mr O'Connell were the principal speakers; but, if we except a violent attack by the latter gentleman upon our Irish correspondent, there was nothing in any of the speeches worthy of a report. The rent for the week was announced to be £514 1s. 3d.—Times.

SWITZERLAND.—We learn from Zurich that the great council has decided, by a majority of 106 votes, that the deputation to the sovereign canton of the diet shall vote for the expulsion of the jesuits. This resolution contributed to tranquillise the canton.

BAHAMAS.—By the file of West Indian papers, received yesterday, it appears that the Bahamas have suffered very severely during the past summer from famine. Dreadful, indeed, must have been the state to which the inhabitants of the Bahamas must have been reduced, when we are told that many lives were saved by public and private benevolence.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	3010	3430	2040			
Scotch			8690			
Irish						
Foreign ..	200	840	1110			

Business is flat, but there is no alteration in prices.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Inquirer after Truth" would know, if his reading had been extensive, that the theory which strikes him for the first time is by no means a novelty to the religious world.

"A Lover of Independency." We have no objection to an appeal to Cæsar about Cæsar's proper affairs. We deprecate an appeal to the sword under any circumstances. But we cannot forbear asking whether it is not on behalf of religion that the appeal is made in this instance, and whether the same parties who burn with indignation at French aggressions in Polynesia, did not stand by silent when Great Britain rifled China?

"A Pastor in the North." We regret that we have not room for his letter this week.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 7 lines....5s. 0d. For 10 lines....6s. 0d.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12, 1845.

SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT has opened somewhat flatly. Its proceedings, hitherto, however, have been chiefly of a routine character, and have afforded little scope either for wordy warfare or for senatorial wisdom. An address, responsive to a royal speech, except in periods of intense political excitement, seldom calls out anything deserving the name of a debate—for etiquette imposes upon all parties a strong restraint—and the vote with which it is wound up, as it binds nobody to a principle, or even to an opinion, must be regarded as one of those customary legislative formalities which, being destitute of significance, asks of the country nothing beyond as early a burial as may consist with decency. Sessional orders, absurd as many of them are, have become too entirely matters of course to provoke remark save from, here and there, a reputed fault-finder of the radical school—and notices of motions, whatever of future interest they promise, are little likely in the present day to indicate the likelihoods of the present session. As yet, therefore, we have comparatively little upon which to comment—and even that little is wanting in substantiality.

The discussions, if such they can be fairly characterised, on the address, in its several stages of movement through the House of Commons, present three noticeable incidents—the explanation of Mr Gladstone—the speech of Lord John Russell—and the challenge of Mr Cobden. The rest barely rises above the level of insipidity.

It was only to be expected that, on the very first night of the session, the ex-president of the Board of Trade would be called upon to give some account of the causes which operated to make him an exile from office. These, he said, would not be found in anything connected with his own peculiar department—but solely in his having published strong and deliberate opinions upon the relation which the state should bear to religion, with which opinions the proposed policy of the cabinet would be directly at variance. Without arraigning the wisdom of that policy, and without committing himself to any personal opposition to it, he yet conceived that they who had expressed decided views on given principles could never be the fitting instruments for introducing a policy entirely subversive of them—and hence, that his course in reference to projected measures of an ecclesiastical character relating to the pacification of Ireland might be not only independent but unsuspected, he deemed it most becoming to step down from official eminence into the comparative privacy of mere parliamentary membership. The rareness of the right honourable gentleman's delicacy appears to us to have been the main reason for its being undervalued. Neither the senate nor the press appear to be capable of appreciating, or even of understanding, a trait of sincerity and high-mindedness so much above the ordinary standard of the morality of statesmen in modern times. All parties are perplexed—all think there must needs be something yet untold. Mr Gladstone may or may not have assigned the true reason for his resignation—but, certainly, to our minds, he has assigned an adequate one, and one which reflects no little honour on himself. If he is strung to a higher tone of official virtue than his colleagues, that is surely not to be imputed to him as a fault.

Lord John Russell's speech is the next incident calling for remark. He seemed to express himself with all the asperity of a man who finds there is so little to quarrel about in the position of his adversary, that much must be made of that little, or entire agreement must be confessed outright. In substance he is one with his opponents—in modes only is he at variance with them. True, he designated protection as a bane to agriculture, whilst the Premier insists on its necessity. But, even here, the disagreement is rather nominal than real. Lord John has always declared himself opposed to total repeal—and a fixed duty, even when levied upon imported corn for purposes of revenue only,

would be a protection just in proportion to its amount. We must not, therefore, be misled by the whig nomenclature. Let the noble lord be asked to give a practical explanation of his meaning—push him to a declaration of the measures into which his principles would shape themselves—and we should be agreeably disappointed in the man if they were not such as to

"Keep the word of promise to the ear,
But break it to the hope."

Lord John wraps up his principles in a covering of one colour—Sir Robert Peel in that of another—but the principles themselves are practically identical. We must say, therefore, that we shall want other and stronger proof than that afforded by what the Premier characterised "a bitter party speech" to satisfy us that a coalition between the two sections of the aristocracy is, for the present, out of the question. Were the government hard beset by its own supporters, the twin political parties would soon find that no very wide gulf yawns between them—and, as to the logomachies of last week, they would, no doubt, bury them all under the reflection—

"Strange that such difference there should be
Twixt tweedledum and tweedledee."

The last special incident calling for notice in this place is Mr Cobden's challenge to the agriculturalists. During the brief debate on the address in the House of Lords, the Duke of Richmond complained that the Queen's speech contained no allusion to the existing agricultural distress. The member for Stockport, pouncing upon the opportunity afforded him by this complaint, proposed next evening to the monopolists that they should for once unite forces with the free-traders, and compel the government to consent to the appointment of a select committee to ascertain the causes of the depressed condition of agriculture. The offer was, of course, declined. *Bona fide* inquiry is not the thing which landlords want. As a sham preface to a foregone conclusion, they would be glad enough of a blue book, containing evidence and a report. They are not, however, to be convinced against their will. Mr Cobden, we should imagine, hardly expects it, and threw out his proposal merely with a view of putting his adversaries more decidedly in the wrong. It is clear, from the result, that they are prepared to fly in the face of all consistency when it suits their purpose, and that no regard to character will induce them to quit their hold of protection. We question whether any power short of incipient revolution will force them from their position. Their high rents do not greatly overtop their mortgages: should these permanently fall, the majority of them will be left without a shilling of income. They will, therefore, fight the battle to the last gasp. The debate which followed Mr Cobden's proposition brought out Sir Robert Peel precisely as portrayed by *Punch*. He admitted partial distress, but doubted whether he could afford legislative relief—"I am sorry for you, my good man; but I can do nothing for you."

No other matters of interest have, as yet, been brought before the House of Commons, if we except Lord Howick's complaint against the railway department of the Board of Trade—a complaint which has led to a modification of the sessional orders respecting private bills, which will allow to those railway projects condemned by the Board a fair chance of appealing to the decision of the legislature. In the House of Lords nothing worth mention has taken place. The debate on the address was as dull as debate could be—but it was also short. And Lord Montague's speech on finance, delivered on Monday evening, is wanting in interest, because uttered in ignorance of what the Prime Minister intends to reveal to the country on Friday next.

The elections, rendered necessary by the various changes in the ministry announced in our last number, are taking place without opposition. Sir T. Fremantle has again been returned for the family borough of Buckingham. His nomination to that high honour was seconded by Mr Bennett, a deacon of the baptist church in the town. We know not whether this act of courtesy was done in deference to the wishes of a certain nobleman, or in consistency with the political principles and preferences held by that gentleman. But we might have imagined that a member, as we understand, of the Anti-state-church Association would have been no great admirer of aristocratical and clerical influence, when, in his own vicinity, the baptist home missionary, in more than one of the villages adjacent to and within the borough of Buckingham, is unable to get a room in which to preach the gospel. It is a little perplexing, moreover, to simple minds, that a liberal supporter of the Baptist Irish Society should sympathise with the policy of the present government, which is especially directed to the support of papal institutions out of national funds, and which is opposed to all civil and religious freedom. We hear that he stands alone in his disregard to his own professed principles, and that every member of the church of which he is an officer disapproves of so anomalous and time-serving an act.

The overland mail from India and China brings but little news. The disturbances in the Southern Mahratta have been put down by the British forces. Sickness in Scinde is rather on the decrease. Sir H. Hardinge was engaged in promoting native education. The treaty between France and China is concluded. The country is generally quiet—trade dull—and Governor Davis, of Hong Kong, at odds with the British merchants, in consequence of some unpopular ordinances.

CHARACTER BEFORE PLACE.

"MEASURES, not men" is one of those popular maxims which, whatever of truth they may contain, become mischievous by a false application. In some sense, and that a tolerably wide one, it is wise to look rather at what statesmen do, than at what they are, and to judge of them, not so much from the character of the party with whom they may be connected, as from the policy which they labour practically to carry out. In another sense, the political morality and consistency of public men are of higher moment to the nation, than any set of measures however loudly called for—and the grandest reforms had better be postponed than effected by those who have all their lives opposed them.

The conduct of the Wellington administration on the question of catholic emancipation, has usually been lauded by all parties as alike honourable to themselves and beneficial to the country. We may startle some of our readers, perhaps, when we declare our deliberate opinion that it was neither. And we select this case as the thread upon which we may string a few remarks, rather than a more recent one, because it will enable us to find our illustrations in history instead of in conjecture.

That the cession of the Catholic claims was a wise and just measure, and one demanded by the spirit of the age, we, at least, are not likely to dispute. That they who had uniformly, strenuously, and professedly on religious grounds, opposed it, should at length discover their error, change their opinions, and adopt a line of conduct in honest conformity with their new convictions, we impute to them as no fault. That they, however, were the fitting instruments for giving legislative embodiment to the liberal principles which had at length overborne their own systematic opposition, we cannot believe. Their course was a clear, and might have been an honourable one. Had they proclaimed their conversion, retired from office, and given their hearty aid to their successors in carrying out a policy which they saw to be imperatively necessary, the measure itself could not have been effectually resisted even for a session—its healing efficacy would have been a hundred-fold more powerful—and the moral influence of government, instead of sustaining a shock from which it has never wholly recovered, would have been almost indefinitely augmented. As it was, the country had the measure, but the measure only.

To us it seems clear, that no policy is practically worth much, until its time is fully come—that is, until by the sheer weight of its own reasonableness, and by the legitimate exertions of its own friends, it can win for itself a public welcome. No party has a right to draw upon the future resources of the empire, in order to remove immediate difficulties—nor to use up, if we may so speak, the whole moral credit of government in accomplishing a present good. Now, a general belief in the sincerity of the body invested with civil rule—a disposition to repose upon their integrity—a readiness to make allowances for the force of impediments in their way—are certainly amongst the most valuable resources of empire. Without their aid, the administration of public affairs to any great advantage becomes a more than Herculean task—and whoever destroys them, or, for whatever purpose, greatly impairs them, robs the country for a long course of years of the whole benefit it derives from the consciousness that it is governed by a reality rather than by a sham. When once magistracy comes to be popularly looked upon as a hollow pretence, its power for good ceases, and every party begins to entertain the design of hurling it from its throne.

There cannot be a more deplorable or dangerous state of public feeling than a general scepticism as to the existence of political virtue. Wherever there exists a widely-spread impression that the law of obligation may be canceled in the minds of statesmen by the law of necessity, the door is thrown wide open for the undisputed ingress of duplicity and fraud. Government degenerates into mere trickery—and the entire code of political morality resolves itself into being "wide awake." The disease, originating in the higher and more exclusive circles of society, unfortunately, does not stay there. It is contagious. It silently and insidiously creeps over the whole class of agents and interested partisans, scattered over the lengths and breadths of the land, and is communicated by them to all with whom they are placed in more immediate contact. At length, consistent attachment to principle is treated as a positive weakness—and there is a universal scramble to obtain for

self as large a measure of advantage as possible, at the expense of truth, purity, honour, high-mindedness, anything, in short, which may chance to stand in the way. The sphere of politics becomes absolutely loathsome. Good men, disgusted with the air of faithlessness which enwraps it, retire into determined inaction. The bad become worse. Corruption grows shameless. And civil rule, instead of being a solemn function in which the noblest powers of the best men may find scope for exercise, sinks into a species of gambling, in which the lowest passions of human nature find their gratification, and the highest interests of men are played for as the stakes.

That we, in this empire, are rapidly approaching this terrible consummation, must be obvious to all who can combine observation with reflection. And we ascribe the result very mainly to the deleterious influence upon the public mind, of the readiness displayed by statesmen to sacrifice character to place. Sir Robert Peel, with his solemn plausibility of manner, and his utter want of heart, has done more to undermine the essential well-being of the empire, than all the reforms of the last five and twenty years have done to promote it. He has gradually brought down the tone of public feeling to the miserable level of his own. Without a spark of love in his own nature—without the faintest perception of moral beauty—moderate, because moderation is expedient—decent, because by decency he can best attain his ends—he is the most conspicuous incarnation of cold and unprincipled utilitarianism which modern times have furnished. And he has been so long before the public eye—has passed through so many changes with a smirking simulation of conscientiousness—has so politely bowed out character when to have retained it would have proved inconvenient—that men have forgotten there is such a thing as earnest and full-hearted patriotism in this lower world—devout attachment to a truth they begin to regard as akin either to bigotry or to romance—and a clever head is, in their idea, necessarily dissociated from a warm and loving heart.

Mr Gladstone's resignation, at least if he has assigned the real causes of it, is a hopeful contrast to what, of late years, we have witnessed. He denies not the necessity which renders a change of policy towards Ireland imperative—but he rightly judges that he is not the right man to carry out that change. The deliberate record of his opinions in opposition to it, before he became invested with the responsibility of office, precludes him, as he thinks, from undertaking to propose it—for conversion should not only be honest, but should appear such. He is right. May his example become fashionable! and may Englishmen be led back at length, spite of all counteracting influences, to esteem character above place!

WHAT'S BEHIND THE MASK?

WE are well aware how easy it is to slide insensibly into a state of constant suspicion as to the designs of government, when the general course of policy which they pursue is opposed alike to our judgment and to our wishes. Journalists may get into the habit, ere they are aware, of looking at everything ministerial through the medium of their own prejudices—of magnifying mole-hills into mountains—and of discovering plots against the liberty of the subject, which never had existence in any imagination but their own. We confess to our fears of Sir Robert Peel. When he is most plausible and winning, we are then most alive to danger. The very brightness and beauty of his flowers, makes us instantly look for the viper beneath. This may be partly our own fault—but it is chiefly, we think, the result of those impressions produced upon our minds by the systematic duplicity with which he usually acts. He never aims directly at his mark. He always reaches it by some species of circumvention—by fetching a compass—or by shambling from side to side, as if purposely to conceal his onward movement.

It is now known to the whole kingdom that Sir R. Peel intends, on Friday evening next, to develop his financial policy. That there will be anything strikingly bold in it—any single principle which fairly grapples with the vice of the existing system—it would be too much to expect; we can hardly doubt, however, that it will be invested with a sufficient air of plausibility to commend it to the country as a good step in the right direction. We anticipate this from the fact of his anxiety to produce it so early in the session. The Premier is not always so tender of existing interests as to give the public the benefit of an early knowledge of his plans, unless he imagines there is something taking in them. We know that he has a considerable surplus of revenue at his disposal. We may infer, from certain tabular statements prepared by the government, and now in circulation, that the existing tariff is susceptible of great simplification, without considerable injury to the income of the country. We can well imagine a reform in this direction, which, whilst it would be an undeniable advantage to commerce, would look much grander in the speech of a prime minister than it would

turn out to be when reduced to practice. As we are not in the secret of Sir Robert Peel's designs, we cannot, of course, pretend to predict his measures. But we can easily understand how a man with his tendency of mind can deal with existing taxation in such manner as to appear in the light of one offering a great boon to the nation, when, in point of fact, he would be meddling only with a multiplicity of fiddle-faddles. For the reason, however, which we have already stated, we assume that his financial *brochure* will be popular in its general cast, and that, in making it thus early, he calculates upon gaining credit with the commercial world.

Under these circumstances we cannot forbear asking, What are those measures of a more anti-democratic spirit which this financial one is intended to cover? We have a strong suspicion that something far from agreeable to the wishes of the people, will follow close upon the heels of the St Valentine's day speech, and that the early sunshine will be soon succeeded by a bleak east wind. Sir Robert seldom takes a step out of the path of official routine without sufficient motive. Our surmises may be wrong, but we cannot obliterate from our minds the impression, that he wishes to propitiate the commercial spirit of England with a view the better to introduce his dangerous policy for Ireland. As yet, we have heard only from his lips of an intended augmentation of the grant to Maynooth. But something more than this, we suspect, was the cause of Mr Gladstone's retirement from office. At all events, it behoves the people to be on their guard against surprise. Depend upon it, the more popular Sir R. Peel's plan of future taxation, the more reason have we to fear a subsequent encroachment upon our liberties by aristocratic selfishness. John Bull is easily put into a good humour, by putting money in his purse; and it is ordinarily when the fit of good humour is upon him, that he is cozened out of a silent assent to the most pernicious principles of civil rule. We would not prejudge our wily Premier, but, assuredly, we think it will be well for all parties to keep their eyes wide open.

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

WORKING OF THE NEW TARIFF.—FREE TRADE.

[Some days ago, the *Morning Chronicle* announced that an expository statement of the operation of the tariff of 1842 had been prepared for the information of ministers. The blue book has now been issued, and we borrow our contemporary's account of the document and some of the most striking results.]

The original document is one of the most complete things of the kind that we remember to have seen. It consists of a series of tables, which fill nearly two hundred folio pages, and exhibit in detail the effect of every change made in the customs duties by the tariff of 1842, and also the operation of the duties which were left unaltered. For this purpose, the articles in the tariff, being in number 813, are divided into seven schedules, according to the amount of revenue which they yield; and each schedule is subdivided into five classes. In this order, is shown the quantity of each article imported, and the amount of duty received upon it, in each of the years ending 5th January, 1839, and 5th January, 1841, which were before the new tariff; and in each of the years ending 5th July, 1843, and 5th July, 1844, during which that act was in operation. The tables show also, in the same line, the former and present rate of duty chargeable on each article, and the average prices of the articles, exclusive of duty, in 1840 and 1844, where they have been ascertained. The following statement will make the nature of the classification adopted appears more clearly:—

Sched.	Arts producing	Number of articles	Mean annual produce in two years preceding years following the tariff	Mean annual produce in two years following the tariff
I.	Less than £100	448	£19,037	£28,040
II.	£100 to £500	137	71,972	34,461
III.	£500 to £1,000	50	69,032	36,258
IV.	£1,000 to £10,000	109	570,718	317,492
V.	£10,000 to 50,000	25	706,991	511,570
VI.	£50,000 to 100,000	5	389,006	395,603
VII.	£100,000 & upwards	17	20,810,542	21,417,462
	Articles now exempted	196		
Total		813	£22,637,494	£22,720,886

It is evident that the last of these schedules, No. VII, is by far the most important; containing, as it does, seventeen articles which yield twenty times as much revenue as the other 796 put together. Each schedule is, as we have said, divided into five classes. Class A, containing articles in a raw state, to be used in manufactures; class B, articles partially manufactured; class C, articles wholly manufactured; class D, articles of food; and class E, articles not properly belonging to any of the foregoing heads. To exemplify this cross division, we take Schedule VII, of which the seventeen articles produce £21,417,462; and we find it made up as follows:—

CLASS A.—RAW MATERIALS.	
Timber, tallow, and wool	£1,043,466
CLASS B.—PARTIAL MANUFACTURES.	
Timber of wood, sawn or split	£513,769
CLASS C.—COMPLETE MANUFACTURE.	
Silk	£246,111
CLASS D.—FOOD AND STIMULANTS.	
Butter, coffee, corn, currants, raisins, sugar, spirits, tea, tobacco, and wine	£19,614,116

Thus it appears that a dozen articles of food, including such stimulants as spirits and tobacco, produce six-sevenths, or nearly the whole of our customs revenue. Many of the changes made in 1842 have been, in a commercial point of view, very beneficial. Some reductions of duty then made have either increased or caused but little loss to the revenue; and in most cases, where the loss has been greater, the increased consumption caused by the lower duty is more than a counterbalance for the financial injury. The duty on copper ore was virtually prohibitory; the new tariff reduced it to less than half; and the result was, the importation in the last year of a quantity of ore, containing about 12,000 tons of metal,

and paying a revenue of nearly £70,000. Upon the article of timber, comparing the years 1841 and 1844, we appear to have sacrificed a revenue of about £720,000 for the benefit of one particular colonial interest. We shall not dwell on this monstrous piece of folly at present; but merely notice that, from a comparison of the years 1843 and 1844, the import of foreign timber appears to increase, and that of colonial timber to decline, notwithstanding the differential duty of 24s. per load, which is still maintained. The reduction of the coffee duties has caused a financial loss of about £230,000, comparing the years 1841 and 1844; but the import has increased, and the revenue will no doubt recover itself. The mean annual produce of the duties on corn, under Sir Robert Peel's bill, has been upwards of a million sterling; and there is every reason to believe, that so long as the act continues, something like this amount of revenue will be obtained, in the worst and most wasteful manner, from the first necessary of life. Amongst the smaller articles in the fifth schedule, we find that the reduction of the duty on foreign bark, from 8d. to 3d. per cwt, has increased the importation from 569,000 cwt to 862,000 cwt. The reduction of duty on mahogany has not been so successful. The reduction on train oil and spermaceti oil of foreign fishing, has raised the import of both together from 573 tons to 3,863 tons, and the revenue from £15,700 to £50,900. The reduction of the duties on olive oil and palm oil has likewise led to increased importation, but not to a sufficient extent to bring up the revenue to the former point. The importation of unwrought iron, in bars, has also increased under a lower duty. There is a remarkable increase in the importation of chicory, an article on which the duty was not lowered. In the years 1838 and 1840, the quantity admitted was less than 4,000 cwt; in the two years ending last July, the quantity exceeded 52,000 cwt, and the duty paid was more than £54,000. This shows the enormous extent to which the adulteration of coffee takes place. The reduction of the duty on clover seeds has not been successful, the importation having been, in 1840, 140,000 cwt, and in the last year of the accounts only 84,000 cwt. The loss to the revenue has been nearly £100,000.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.—The year which has just terminated will stand pre-eminent in agricultural history, as, if not the dawn of scientific agriculture, at least that in which the impulse given to agricultural chemistry, by the works of the immortal Liebig, began to exhibit itself. Scotland, ever foremost in everything having for its object the advancement of agricultural improvement, has in her chemical association laid the foundation on which time only is required to erect the perfect structure of scientific agriculture; the Royal English Agricultural Society, by the appointment of an eminent agricultural chemist and lecturer, in the person of Dr Playfair, has shown a disposition in this also to copy her great prototype; and, although we are not able to state that there are any indications of a corresponding step in advance in this country, still we are not altogether without the pale of agricultural science; on the contrary, as was proved to the world by the examination of the boys of one of our provincial schools, at Glasgow, the seeds of improvement are being sown in the fresh and duly prepared soil of the youthful understanding, from which an abundant return may, under Providence, and in due season, be expected. We are aware of the objections urged by some against the attempt to inculcate, in our common country schools, the abstruse sciences of agricultural chemistry and vegetable physiology, as, in their opinion, calculated to interfere with the education usually taught in such schools; but such objections might be answered by the inquiry, what has been the actual result in the case of the only instance to which we can refer? Why, that the boys of the Larne school, together with a degree of information on these sciences which astonished the eminent men by whom they were examined, possessed an equally creditable acquaintance with all the branches of an ordinary English education. And surely if, as at present it appears likely, the views of the great German chemist be correct; if it be certain that every crop, especially corn, removed from the land, abstracts from the soil matters essential to the production of corn; that these matters are not returned to the soil by our ordinary manures, unless the manure of animals, by which the corn has been consumed, be also returned; if warmth be equivalent for a certain quantity of food; if it be possible to ascertain, not only what kind of crop any given piece of land is best capable of producing, but what is the most profitable mode of disposing of such crop—surely, we say, if these, which are only a few of the astounding statements propounded as truths by Liebig, be correct, it is of national importance that they should be widely disseminated. We, therefore, hail with pleasure the prospect, that the example set by the Larne school is about to be extensively acted upon, not only in Scotland, but also in Ireland.—*Irish Farmer's Gazette.*

O'CONNELL AND "YOUNG IRELAND."—Mr O'Connell, it appears, wished to come to London, and act in parliament this session, but the Repeal association would not let him. He was out-voted in the committee of that body, and he has submitted—the head has given way at last to the tail. It is melancholy, in one sense, to see a great man like Mr O'Connell thus bowing down in subservience to the smaller spirits whom his energy alone has called into existence; but he has probably found it necessary, in order to preserve for himself a remnant of power, to submit to them in the mean time. What a subject of contemplation, however, it is to English statesmen, who have heretofore thought of Ireland only in connexion with the power and whims of one man, to think that there is now rising up a multitude of men with all O'Connell's power, but by no means his prudent energy or his sagacious humanity! In this way the difficulties of governing Ireland increase the longer they are put off, and actually new and more formidable difficulties than had been dreamt of at first are engendered by the delay.—*Economist.*

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTHWARK.—We believe we are correct in stating that on Tuesday last, Sir William Molesworth, Bart, received a requisition from Southwark, to succeed Mr Benjamin Wood, as representative of that borough, and that the worthy baronet has accepted the flattering offer. — *West Briton*.

REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON SOAP.—A numerous and influential meeting of manufacturers and other persons anxious to procure a repeal of the duties affecting the manufacture of soap, was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, on Saturday, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best mode by which that desirable object may be effected. The meeting was very respectfully attended, every part of the great room being crowded to the utmost. Amongst the gentlemen present we noticed Messrs J. Hume, M.P., J. Patteson, M.P., J. T. Egerton, M.P., B. Hawes, M.P., J. Cattley, W. B. Hutton, Thomas Tooke, jun., J. E. Hubbard, W. Gladstone, Alderman Humphery, M.P., W. Hutton, D. W. Wire, T. Hawes, J. Shaw of Bristol, T. Goddard, H. Johnston, Simpson, Gibbs, B. Lancaster, J. Johnson of Rencorn, Unworth of Liverpool, Tyson of Liverpool, &c. Mr William Hawes was called to the chair. Resolutions urging a repeal of the duty on soap were unanimously passed, and embodied in a petition to parliament.

EDUCATION.—**CRAVEN CHAPEL.**—On Monday evening, Feb. 3, a public meeting was held at Craven chapel, to re-open the school rooms under the chapel, a considerable sum having been expended upon them, in improving the ventilation, and admitting much more light than formerly. These rooms are now very spacious, well lighted, and well ventilated, with convenient class rooms, and will accommodate about 500 children. Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., presided over the meeting. The chapel was well filled. The meeting was addressed by Messrs Freeman (Wesleyan missionary), Martin, and Ainslie; by Dr Leifchild, William Leifchild, Esq., and Mr John Leifchild, jun.; by George Thompson, Esq., and by the chairman. No collection was made at the meeting, upwards of £2,000 having been previously contributed, or promised to be paid within five years, and to be transmitted to the central fund as it is collected.

VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT OF FREE DISCUSSION.—A lecture by George Thompson, Esq., having been put an end to on Wednesday evening, by a chartist disturbance, the following resolution has been passed by the National Association:—

"Resolved—That we, the members of the National Association, of 242, High Holborn, thus publicly declare our strong disapprobation of the conduct of those persons who, on the evening of Feb. 4, so disgracefully interrupted a meeting called by the friends of free trade, in our hall, for the hearing of a lecture from Mr George Thompson; conceiving, as we do, that such conduct is calculated to injure the cause of chartism, of which we are advocates, is destructive of all free discussion, is anti-democratic and unjust. And, further, we think it the imperative duty of all honest chartists to come boldly forward, and, for the sake of the cause they have espoused, redeem it from the imputation cast upon it by the conduct of a few intolerant individuals, who, for the last few years, have gone from place to place to mar every meeting, however worthy the object for which it has been called. Signed, W. LOVETT, secretary."

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.—A memorial, signed by Messrs Rothschild, Messrs Baring, and other influential merchants and brokers, was presented to the Gresham committee, praying that the merchants' area in the Royal Exchange might be covered in with a sky-light, and that some provision might be made to check the draughts of air from the arched door ways. The memorial was taken into consideration at a meeting of the committee on Friday, when the clerk was directed to reply, that the area had been constructed with two-thirds of the space covered and one-third open, in compliance with the wish of a great majority of the merchants and brokers in the city, expressed in answer to a circular addressed to them by the committee; and that with regard to the draughts, orders had been given to put up inner doors at the north and south entrances, so as to check the current of air without impeding the thoroughfare.

THE CELEBRATED PORTLAND VASE, in the British Museum, has been destroyed by a madman or a vagabond aping insanity. At a quarter to four o'clock on Friday afternoon, a loud crash was heard in the room containing the vase; the doors were instantly closed, and the ancient relic was found on the floor, shattered to pieces—the spectators that happened to be near it struck with consternation. A man had suddenly broken it with a large sculptured stone. Taken to Bow street, and hastily examined, he confessed that he had destroyed the vase, but refused to give his name. He was remanded. On inquiry, it turned out that he lived at a coffee house in Long Acre, under the name of William Lloyd; and that he is an Irishman. He had ninepence in his pocket when seized. The vase, which was valued at £2,000, was interesting not only for its beauty, but as being a specimen of antique glass. It was found two miles and a half from Rome, in the road leading from Frascati: for two centuries adorned the Barberini Palace at Rome; was bought by Sir William Hamilton; by him sold to the Duchess of Portland; and deposited in the British Museum by the present Duke.

PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.—The inhabitants of the important parish of St Pancras have, at the recommendation of the central society for the establishment of baths and washhouses for the labouring classes, determined to take the matter in hand. At an important meeting held on Wednesday

last, a report was read from the provisional committee making an earnest appeal to the inhabitants to furnish them with funds necessary for the erection of public baths and washhouses on a suitable scale in one or more districts of the parish. The report having been adopted, it was resolved that deputations should wait on his Grace the Duke of Bedford, the Marquis of Camden, Lord Southampton, Lord Somers, and other great landed proprietors of the district, to solicit their aid and co-operation. Committees having been also appointed to canvass for subscriptions in the respective districts, thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

THE WESTMINSTER IMPROVEMENTS.—On Friday a large meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Great Smith street, for the purpose of considering the best plan for the improvement of the district. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Mr B. Hawes, M.P., the Hon. Captain Rous, M.P., Mr C. Hindley, M.P., Colonel Short, Mr Humfrey, Mr R. Wason, Mr C. Wood, &c. The Hon. Captain Rous, M.P., was unanimously voted to the chair. After a long discussion, resolutions were passed to the effect, "That no part of the metropolis more urgently required improvement than the space between the houses of parliament and Buckingham palace." "That a committee be appointed to consider the improvements suggested; and that they be directed to impress upon the government the propriety of withholding any plan which is not approved of by the inhabitants generally." "That in any line of streets formed, attention be paid to the improvement of the dwellings of the poorer classes." Great stress was laid by most of the speakers upon the propriety of adopting those improvements which would remove the numerous houses of ill fame in the vicinity of Westminster abbey and the Almonry. A committee to carry out the above resolutions was appointed.

THE WEATHER.—**THE PARKS.**—The frost still continues, accompanied by a most piercing easterly wind, and on Monday there was a heavy fall of snow. During Sunday night the thermometer was down to twenty-nine degrees, showing three degrees of frost; and about four o'clock on Monday morning it snowed for about an hour. At six o'clock, a.m., the mercury had risen to thirty-one degrees, with a dense cloudy sky, and the wind south-east; and at nine o'clock it again commenced snowing, and continued throughout the day, the mercury at part of it being higher than thirty-two degrees (freezing point). At eight o'clock on Monday evening it was still snowing, and the ground was covered to the depth of upwards of four inches, with the thermometer at thirty degrees, and the wind due east. On the Serpentine river, Hyde park, the only persons who ventured on the ice were a few boys who got on from the south shore, but were immediately driven off by the Royal Humane Society's ice-men. The ice is still too weak to bear any number of persons, and is now most dangerous from the weaker parts being hidden by the snow. On the Long Water in Kensington gardens, owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather, there were not, during Monday, above 100 skaters, the larger portion of whom were members of the Skating Club. On the Round pond there were not more than 300 persons. No accident of any moment occurred at either place, and on both the ice is stated to be very unsafe. On the ornamental water in the Regent's park the number of skaters was much larger, full 1,300 disporting themselves during the day. No accidents occurred. In St James's park there were about 700 skaters, and no accidents.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT SCHEME, proposed last session, has been abandoned by government, as well as the proposal for laying an additional duty upon coals for embanking the river "higher up."

THE GREAT DISTILLERY CASE.—The case of the Queen versus George Smith, the distiller, charged with defrauding the excise revenue, came before the court of Exchequer on Thursday; the Solicitor-general having claimed a trial at bar. The greatest interest was excited by the case. The most eminent counsel were engaged on both sides; and, among the preparations made by the officers of the Crown, was an elaborate model of the defendant's premises, said to have cost £600. The defendant was charged, under various counts, with having a distillery within a quarter of a mile's distance from a rectifying-house, against the law; and with having a communication between the two. The Solicitor-general stated the case. Mr George Smith is a distiller, who had carried on business, as such, to so great an extent in Buck's row, Whitechapel, that he frequently paid duties to government to the amount of £1,000 in a day. Mr George Smith resided in the dwelling-house belonging to the premises, with his brother, James Scott Smith, who carried on business next door as a rectifier of spirits. The defendant and his brother were not actually partners, as the law prohibited parties carrying on the two businesses together; but it would be shown that they were virtually partners. Sir Frederick Thesiger entered into many details explaining the nature of the frauds discovered, but they are almost unintelligible without the model. The main allegations are these:—The duty is taken in a distillery on the stock produced; in a rectifying-house, not on the stock, but on the spirit "permitted" to customers. On George Smith's premises was a vast spirit-receiver; the floor of which, as usual, slanted, to facilitate the running of the spirit. This slanting was wrongly stated; and, in 1842, Drinkwater, an intelligent excise officer, discovered that the capacity of the vessel was understated by 4-10ths of an inch in depth, equal to nine gallons of spirit, or £8,000 a year duty at the rate of production. This roused his suspicions; and, without interfering with

the business, he took a long series of observations on the spirit made from October, 1843, to February, 1844. Sometimes he found a deficiency of the spirit that ought to have been produced by the works; sometimes an excess on the quantity stated, which would have been liable to seizure; showing, in fact, as we understand the allegations (which, be it remembered, are, as yet, *ex parte*), that more was made than was lawfully avowed, but that some of it disappeared in an unaccountable manner. At length, in October last, by exercising much sagacity, the officers discovered a pipe, artfully disguised by being confounded with the ordinary pipes with which the East London Water Works company supply all the houses of the street, but communicating with the rectifying-house; and, by means of that pipe, they actually transferred spirit from the distillery to the rectifying-house. The defendant and his brother accused the officers of doing so by some trick. Evidence in support of the charge was taken at great length; but, in the midst of it, on Friday, the case was brought to a sudden close, the counsel for the prosecution having discovered an informality in the writ authorising the trial, and the cause was withdrawn for the present. Mr Fitzroy Kelly loudly complained of the hardship entailed on his client, the defendant, by the additional delay.

EXTINCTION OF FIRES.—**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—On Thursday, Dr John Ryan, professor of chemistry, delivered a lecture on fire, for the purpose of noticing an apparatus recently invented by Mr Phillips, of Bloomsbury square, called the fire annihilator. Dr Ryan commenced his lecture by stating that one of the great objects of the Polytechnic institution was to bring before the public, and to illustrate, by experiments and models, the discoveries of scientific men. Before he entered upon the subject of the fire annihilator, he endeavoured to explain the nature of combustion and of fire. After explaining the *phlogiston* theory of the earlier chemists, and the more modern views of Lavoisier and others, the doctor proceeded to prove, by a number of experiments, that combustion, under all circumstances, is the result of chemical action. A considerable portion of the lecture was afterwards devoted to the consideration of supporters and non-supporters of combustion, or to those conditions which are necessary either to maintain fire or to prevent its action. To illustrate the efficacy of the apparatus, which, for a large house, is only the size of a small stove, Dr Ryan kindled a fire in a small model house; when the flame and combustion were most perfect, he introduced a small apparatus, not holding more than two ounces of the material, and in half a minute the fire was completely extinguished. As the apparatus is small, and may be kept charged, on the alarm of fire it may be carried to any part, and immediately used. It will, no doubt, prove of vast utility in ships. We understand that Dr Ryan intends to make the fire annihilator the subject of a daily lecture for some time, to afford the public an opportunity of examining the invention.

SHOPLIFTING BY THE DAUGHTER OF A BARONET.—Miss Osborn was brought up for re-examination on Thursday; when her father, Sir John Osborn, and many of her friends and relatives, were present. Mr Clarkson appeared on her behalf; and at his desire the witnesses repeated the evidence given on Saturday; but cross-examination elicited nothing of importance. The shopman to a stationer in Sloane street, where the lady had purchased some books, was brought forward by the police; but he proved nothing against her. Mr Clarkson applied to have Miss Osborn remanded and admitted to bail, as he hoped to be able to obtain favourable testimony in her behalf. The magistrate remanded her till Saturday week; taking her own bail for £500, and that of her father and the Honourable Edward Byng for £250 each.

FASHIONABLE SHOP-LIFTERS.—The practice of shoplifting is so common, and haberdashers and linendrapers have suffered so severely by this species of depredation, that they have for some time past adopted a means, in the case of a suspicious customer, of quickening the vigilance of the shopman who may be serving her, in a manner which excites no attention in the mind of the party suspected. The shop-walker calls out "two-ten," which, to the uninitiated, sounds like intimating the price of an article; but the real import is, that the shopman is to keep his "two eyes fixed on her ten fingers."

William Only, a general postman, has been committed for trial, from Bow street Police office, for stealing a letter containing £6 10s.

CIRCULATION OF FORGED NOTES.—Several well-executed forged five-pound notes have been put in circulation within these few days, particularly among the shopkeepers of the West end, by two fashionably-dressed women, who are attended by a page, and make small purchases. The paper is thinner than that of the genuine Bank of England notes, and of a greasy nature.

SUICIDE OF AN AGRICULTURAL LABOURER.—On Saturday last, Mr G. J. Mills, deputy coroner for West Middlesex, held an inquest at the Five Bells, Finchley, on the body of Samuel Aedy, a rick builder and hay binder. It appeared in evidence, that on Thursday morning at half-past five, deceased rose, his wife saying she should get up too, for she felt so cold in bed (they had neither fire nor clothes to keep the bed and room warm). He told her to remain where she was, and went out and entered a shed close by, and then hung himself from a beam. His wife found him quite dead about an hour after he had left his room. It further appeared that for the last two months he had earned at the most only 5s. 6d. a week. Paying 2s. 6d. a week for rent, there remained but 3s. to keep himself and his wife for seven days. They had nothing but bread and pota-

toes to live on, excepting once a fortnight about 2lbs of beef, which they made last three or four days. They often would have been without bread even, had not a neighbour been in the habit of lending them some. The little cottage they lived in was a picture of cleanliness, and that they had lived in it for thirty-five years. He was too high-spirited to apply to the parish for relief, but lately expressed a fear he should be forced to have recourse to the union, in consequence of lameness from rheumatism. Verdict, "Suicide by hanging;" the jury stating that they did not consider deceased of sound mind at the time he destroyed himself, in consequence of the effect produced upon him by the hopeless state of poverty into which he had fallen.

M'NAUGHTEN, THE MURDERER OF MR DRUMMOND.—We have heard, from the best authority, that this individual continues to manifest the same symptoms of insanity as were testified to upon his trial. He still imagines that he is pursued by secret enemies, and has gone the length of throwing any missiles he could get hold of at the heads of his supposed foes. It is not a little singular that two persons confined in Bedlam who have suffered by M'Naughten's violence should be Messrs Touchet and Dalmas, the first of whom shot at Mr Smith, the keeper of a shooting gallery in Holborn; the other the Battersea bridge murderer. M'Naughten, in consequence of the violence he has displayed, has since been confined by a strait-waistcoat, or "muffle," as it is now called.—*Globe*.

PROVINCIAL. THE ELECTIONS.

THE EAST CORNWALL ELECTION.—Sir William Trelawney, finding that he has little support from the whigs, and that a contest with Mr Carew will involve him in great expense, has withdrawn from the contest. Mr Carew will now, therefore, walk over the course, and a division of the county, which, eight years ago, was in the hands of the liberals, will now pass entirely, and without any decided effort to prevent it, into those of the conservatives. A delay has occurred in moving the writ, in consequence of some informality in the baptismal certificate of the present Earl of St Germans, which has hitherto prevented the issue of the writ of summons calling him to the House of Peers.

COUNTY OF BUCKS.—Mr Charles Scott Murray having accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, it has been generally imagined that the only son of the Duke of Buckingham—the Marquis of Chandos, who attained his majority on the 10th of September last—would start as a candidate to fill the vacancy in the representation thus created; but the Duke of Buckingham, at a meeting of the Bucks Agricultural Association, on Saturday, said that he did not think that arrangement advisable at present. Mr Towers, of Huntsmoor park, Iver, will be the new candidate in the conservative interest, supported by the influence of the Duke. It is not expected that there will be any opposition to the return of Mr Towers.

BUCKINGHAM.—The farce of re-electing Sir T. Fremantle, the new Irish secretary, came off on Monday morning, at the Town hall. There being no opposition, there was neither stir nor bustle in the place. Sir T. Fremantle was proposed by Mr Coker, a high church clergyman, who passed a high eulogium upon Sir Thomas's character and abilities; and seconded by Mr Bennett, grocer, and *deacon of the baptist church* at Buckingham. Sir Thomas returned thanks very briefly, and after three cheers, the meeting separated.

STAMFORD.—A similar event took place, on Monday, at Stamford, by the re-election of Sir George Clerk, the new master of the Mint. At one period during last week a report was current throughout the town that the return of Sir George Clerk would be opposed by Mr Hudson, the chairman of the directors of the Midland Counties Railway company, and handbills to that effect were circulated among the constituents. The influence, however, possessed in the borough by the Marquis of Exeter, and the knowledge that that influence would be exercised in favour of the ministerial candidate, soon dissipated all thoughts of a contest, if they had ever been seriously entertained, and the new master of the Mint was allowed quietly to walk over the course. The opposition alluded to originated, it seems, in questions of an entirely local character, and had no reference whatever to party politics. It appears that the inhabitants of Stamford are strongly in favour of a line of railway projected by the Midland Counties Railway company, from Syston to Peterborough, and passing through their town. The Marquis of Exeter, however, is greatly opposed to this line, and Sir G. Clerk was supposed to coincide in his views upon the subject. In this state of matters a deputation from the Midland Counties Railway company waited upon Sir G. Clerk, in order to explain the advantages of the proposed line to the town of Stamford, and also ascertain his opinion with regard to it. The result of the interview, as appears from the proceedings at the election, was not quite satisfactory to either party. All the speakers at the nomination confined themselves to local topics, and the benefits Sir G. Clerk had already or could confer upon the town. Having been duly proposed and seconded, Sir G. Clerk was declared duly elected, no other candidate appearing. After some very general observations on public affairs, he said he hoped that, as they had been kind enough to renew their confidence in him by again returning him as their representative, he simply asked of them to be allowed to go to parliament unpledged on the subject of the railway. Mr Lowe addressed the meeting at considerable length on the subject of the Syston and Peterborough railway, complaining that Sir G. Clerk had only advocated a

railway, when he ought to have supported the railway. His observations appeared to meet with general approbation, and, at the close of them, he introduced to the meeting two members of the deputation from the Midland Counties Railway company. The Mayor, however, as neither of these gentlemen was an elector, prevented them addressing the assembly by declaring the election to be closed. The proceedings terminated by chairing the new member—a ceremony which the inclemency of the weather and the facilities for snow-balling must have rendered anything but agreeable.

BIRMINGHAM ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the committee of this society, on Monday—Mr Thomas Swan, baptist minister, in the chair—petitions to parliament, in opposition to the Coolie immigration scheme, and to the employment of an armed force on the coast of Africa to prevent the slave trade, were adopted, and it was resolved that they should be entrusted for presentation to Mr Spooner, M.P. On the latter petition the committee was not unanimous, Messrs Morgan, Roe, and Dawson entering their dissent from it. Other resolutions on the subject of the Free church of Scotland and American slavery, the annexation of Texas to the United States, and the prosecutions of abolitionists in the latter country, were also adopted.—*Birmingham Pilot*.

THE GAME LAWS.—Lord Francis Egerton has recently made an important alteration relative to the game on his Northamptonshire estates. The tenantry are now allowed to do as they like with it. A short time since it was strictly preserved, and they did not dare to kill even a rabbit.

CHEAP GAME.—The sale of game at Stamford at the present time by the dealers is immense. During the last week several cart-loads were disposed of at prices which have been within the reach of those who, perhaps, never before indulged themselves with the taste of game. The butchers are now complaining that the cheapness of hares (1s. 6d. each, on leaving the skin with the seller) considerably affects the sale of meat; and the graziers also find some difficulty in disposing of their stock to the butchers, on account of the decreased demand for meat around Stamford.—*Stamford Mercury*.

INCOME TAX.—A meeting of the town council was held on Friday at Plymouth, at which a petition against the income tax was unanimously agreed to. It is expected that petitions to a similar effect will be sent from all parts of the country.

COLD WATER CURE.—A singular incident occurred during the fire at the warehouse of Messrs M'Crea and Boord, which took place last week in this town. Amongst the individuals who laudably gave their assistance on the occasion, was Mr John Brier, hairdresser, and landlord of the Labour and Health house, Southgate. For some years Mr Brier had laboured under deafness, still more so on catching cold. On this occasion, whilst actively engaged inside the burning building, one of the engines played into his ear, and knocked him down. On recovering from the stunning effects of the accident, Mr Brier found, to his great surprise and gratification, that his hearing was completely restored, and finding the benefit to continue, gave the firemen a treat, declaring they had done him more good than all the doctors in the town.—*Halifax Guardian*.

RAILWAY MISSIONARIES.—Messrs Grissel and Peto, the contractors on the Brandon railway, have presented every workman with a Bible and other books. Five railway missionaries are also employed between Norwich and Brandon, who specially devote themselves to the religious instruction of the men both on Sunday and during the week. Two buildings have been provided by Mr Peto, as temporary places of worship, and opened for that purpose.—*Norfolk News*.

FIRE IN A RAILWAY TRAIN.—Early on Friday morning last, as the luggage-train was conveying a quantity of pigs from Birmingham, for sale in our market in this city, on nearing the Beechwood-tunnel, it was discovered that the straw on which the animals were lying was in flames. How the accident occurred is not known, but, although four of the pigs were severely burnt, and one of which was immediately killed, no further damage was sustained.—*Birmingham Pilot*.

WOMEN IN COAL MINES.—A young woman named Hannah Hatharington, who was employed in a coal-pit, called the Yorkshire Pit, in Standish, was killed on Thursday week, in consequence of falling down from the top landing to the bottom of the pit. On the coroner's inquest, her father deposed that his daughter was 22 years of age, and was unmarried. She lived with witness as one of his family. She had worn men's clothes for the last twelve months, and had worked in the Yorkshire Pit for three or four days before Thursday last. Witness had bought her a roundabout jacket and a Scotch cap to work in. His family were all very poor. Deceased received her wages herself and gave them to witness. Did not know whether she went to work at the Yorkshire Pit or not. She was taking a man's dinner down on Thursday last. Did not think any one could have known her from a man in her men's clothes. She was 5 feet 10 inches high. Other women were employed in the pit, and they also wore men's clothes.—*Preston Chronicle*.

AN IMPOSTOR.—On Wednesday last, at the Chester police court, a tall sanctified looking fellow, who gave his name as John Spencer, was charged before the Mayor and R. Morris, Esq., as a rogue and vagabond. He had been extremely industrious in attempting to levy contributions towards building a chapel in Manchester, to be conducted on evangelical principles, and had made several fraudulent representations in order to excite the sympathy and charity of the evangelical. The case was fully made

out, and he was committed to hard labour for twenty-eight days in the house of correction. We understand that this is the second piratical attempt in the same line in this city, as ten years ago he so far got into the confidence of the late Mr Wilcoxon as to obtain possession of his pulpit for two services, and of course two collections, the whole proceeds of which he appropriated to his own purposes. It is said the fellow seriously contemplated patronising the last notable scheme in this city, called the city mission, and also applying for the situation of visiting missionary.

COMMITTAL OF A WIFE AND SERVANT FOR SETTING FIRE TO HER HUSBAND'S HOUSE.—Mary Lashbrook, and her servant, Mary Haves, underwent a long examination on Saturday last (it having lasted nearly the whole of the day) before James Gould, Esq., and Major Wren, county magistrates, on suspicion of wilfully setting fire to the premises occupied by the Lashbrooks, the property of Captain Pyke, in the parish of Northam. The girl made a full confession, stating that she was instigated by her mistress to commit the act of incendiarism during the absence of her master at Appledore; and it was clearly discovered that the house and outbuildings had been fired in four different places, considerably detached from each other. Both prisoners were committed for trial, but the mistress was admitted to bail in two sureties of £50 each, and her husband in £100. The prosecution was instituted by Mr John Hamlyn, the Bideford agent to the West of England Insurance office, in which the property was insured. Mr Lashbrook, the tenant of Captain Pyke, has always been considered a respectable farmer; and the conduct of his wife in conniving at such an act is viewed with astonishment. It can only be accounted for on the supposition of her insanity.—*North Devon Journal*.

AN INHUMAN MOTHER.—A woman is in custody at Lammonby, near Penrith in Cumberland, charged with the murder of a daughter nine years old, perpetrated with the most revolting inhumanity. The woman is a drunkard, and the child had frequently told the father of her drinking in his absence. On the afternoon of Wednesday week, "she undressed the child to its shift, and having first hidden the clothes in a closet in the house, made a large fire; and then took the girl by the legs, held her over the fire with her face downwards, and laid her on the top grate bar until the poor child's flesh was literally all burnt off its face, and death terminated its sufferings. She then, it appears, took the child off the fire, and called in at a neighbour's house, with a story that the child had been left in the house along with her little sister, and its clothing having caught fire it had been burnt to death during her absence at a farm house about two miles from Lammonby." Her story was disproved, however, by another daughter, in whose presence she had committed her dreadful crime.

A NEW CRIME.—We have been informed that 11 men left the Aylesbury union on the morning of Friday week, in consequence of part of their food being stopped, for the dreadful offence of laying their wearing apparel on their beds to help keep them warm. If this be true, no wonder there are so many candidates for our county gaol.—*Aylesbury News*.

IRELAND.

The report of the landlord and tenant commission is prepared; and Lord Devon, the chairman, is now directing his attention to a bill to be founded upon that report. The noble Earl, acting upon suggestions from Sir Robert Peel, has obtained the co-operation of legal persons here, in arranging the draft of a bill, to be brought forward during the present session.—*Dublin Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle*.

THE BEQUESTS ACT.—The Irish prelates continue to put forth letters. Dr Slattery, archbishop of Cashel, has addressed a pastoral letter to the clergy of Cashel and Emly, repeating the counsel of the late rescript from Rome, that they should display signal prudence and moderation, and inculcate a due submission to the temporal power in civil affairs; but pointing out, that to do so is not inconsistent with manifesting sympathy towards the people in the grievously deranged social condition of the country, and declaring that the clergy are bound to watch as well over the independence of their church as the purity of their faith. The archbishop alludes to Mr O'Connell as "him whom Providence has raised up to loosen our chains and liberate us from bondage." He reminds his clergy that he has joined with them in petitioning parliament against the Charitable Bequests act; but he counsels them to remember, that the prelates who have accepted places in the commission "are the anointed of the Lord, the ministers of Christ, and the dispensers of the mysteries of God;" and therefore to avoid all unseemly language towards them. The pastoral letter addressed by Dr Kinsella, Bishop of Ossory, to the people of his diocese, on the beginning of Lent, has also attracted some notice. He urges them strongly to join the clergy in putting a stop to the system of violence that prevails in the district; he holds up "the fact," that "Tipperary has been for many years the most disturbed part of Ireland, and at the same time it has been, and is still, the most wretched part of Ireland; there violence and bloodshed have reigned, and grinding oppression has reigned along with it." He threatens to employ against those who introduce unlawful combination into his diocese, the terrible power, which he has so seldom used, of excommunication. He also takes occasion to deny that there was any serious division among the prelates at their last meeting [when the Bequests act was discussed]. The following account of an extraordinary scene appears in the *Limerick Chronicle*—

An extraordinary, if not unprecedented occurrence, took place at the Wells chapel, near Deer park, county Clare, the residence of the Right Rev. Dr Kennedy, R. C. bishop, and within a mile of Newmarket-on-Fergus, last Sunday. Dr Kennedy entered the chapel, as the congregation were assembled, and observing the doors obstructed by persons signing a requisition for a meeting in the chapel to petition for a repeal of the Charitable Bequests act, the bishop ascended the altar, where the priest was officiating, and the clergyman having retired, Dr Kennedy at once condemned the agitation of such a question in that edifice, and proceeded to vindicate the principle of the Bequests act, and the motives of those dignitaries who had undertaken the duty of directing its provisions. The explanation of the bishop was received with symptoms of impatience and audible murmurs from the congregation in the body of the edifice, when he immediately requested those who did not concur with him, and were unwilling to hear their superior, to quit the chapel, upon which the great body of the congregation left the chapel, and the bishop finished his address. The Rev. Mr Molony then resumed his functions on the altar, and the congregation returned, but again withdrew when they saw Dr Kennedy come out a second time, preparing to return home. The respectable parishioners present, including the Canny family, never left the chapel; and to mark their sense of the disrespect shown Bishop Kennedy, and their approval of his explanations, withdrew their signatures from the requisition at the chapel doors, for a meeting against the Bequests act on the following Sunday.

THE BEQUESTS BILL.—The movement against this act still continues. The *Tipperary Vindicator* says:—"Meetings are about to be held in several localities, and on Tuesday next the clergy of the diocese of Emly, convened by the vicar-general, Dr Costelloe, are to assemble at Murroe, to petition against this unhappy enactment." The catholic archbishop of Tuam has written another letter, in which he gives it as his opinion that a meeting of the prelates is absolutely imperative to restore unity among the episcopal body; but he adds, that—

The necessity of their meeting would be spared by the three episcopal commissioners resigning an office which has already excited such general dissatisfaction, and which they have undertaken in opposition to the well-known and recorded sentiments of the great body of their brethren, regarding the uncanonical and penal provisions of that bill. It is only by resigning an office which encroaches on the apostolical rights of their brethren that there can be hope of restoring peace and confidence among the clergy and the people, and healing the evils of division.

The *Times* correspondent says that the attendance at the church of the Conception, where Dr Murray officiates, on Sunday last, was fully twice as numerous as on any Sunday since the archbishop's official acceptance of the commissionership.

The Earl of Lucan, who was dismissed from the commission two or three years ago, for repeatedly stigmatising a brother magistrate in open court as a "miscreant," is, it is said, to succeed the Marquis of Sligo as lord lieutenant of the county of Mayo!

THE GRANT TO MAYNOOTH.—Although, from the tenor of Sir Robert Peel's speech at the close of the last session, it was tacitly admitted that the premier contemplated an increase to the usual annual grant to the college of Maynooth, still his revelations respecting that institution, made as they were on the first night of the opening of the present parliament, naturally enough took all parties here by surprise. As yet, public feeling has not had time fully to develop itself; but in the meanwhile it would appear from the tone of the leading organ of the Irish Roman catholics, the *Freeman's Journal*, that, contrary to established rule, the party seems inclined to place confidence in the sincerity of the pledge of the right hon. baronet to carry out his views in the full spirit of conciliation.—*Dublin correspondent of the Times.*—[The *Nation* also writes in a similar strain.—On the other hand, Sir Robert has, of course, given deep offence to a section of his partial supporters. A meeting of the protestant operatives was held on Friday night at the Rotunda, at which the new policy of the premier with regard to Maynooth was strongly denounced by the society's leader, the Rev. Tresham Gregg.]

LOSS OF SIXTEEN LIVES.—Our correspondent at Newcastle, says the *Newry Telegraph* of Saturday morning, has sent to us the following brief but deeply distressing communication. Sixteen human beings have been, by one of those sad fatalities so common on the eastern coast, hurried into eternity—and the ear is pained with the wailings of their numerous orphans and dependants, now utterly destitute:—"Newcastle, Feb. 6.—Another melancholy calamity occurred here yesterday evening, whereby sixteen human creatures met a watery grave. As is usual, a number of fishermen's wives, sons, and daughters, went to Dundrum to procure bait (mussels) for their lines. One party of them went in a boat, and having collected a quantity of mussels, a number of the others got into the same boat to return home, in all sixteen individuals, nine females and seven males. These being more than the boat would contain with safety, and it blowing a strong gale at the time, the boat upset, and all perished, leaving their distressed relatives to mourn their loss, and many of them are in a wretched state of poverty. Some of them are mothers, brothers, and sisters of those lost on the 13th of January, 1843, for whom a large sum was raised by a benevolent public."

DREADFUL CATASTROPHE.—An occurrence of a most appalling nature took place on Sunday night week, in the far-famed village of Donnybrook. On Monday morning it was discovered that one of the houses on Flora-villa row, a retired spot on the bank of the river Daddar, had been burned down. The cottage was rented by an English gentleman named Orson, who had been for many years in the East India Company's service. On breaking open the hall door the house was found to have been reduced to a mere shell, the inside of which was half filled

with a heap of smouldering rubbish, the roof and floors having fallen in. A written paper was found nailed to the back of the door, containing a statement to the effect that the place would remain a monument to the cruelty of the landlord, who is a respectable solicitor. Captain Orson was considerably in arrear for rent, and for some time past had been holding adverse possession of the premises, the usual legal process having been resorted to for the purpose of dislodging him. A diligent search was instituted, but no traces of him or of the other inmates could be discovered. In the course of the day, however, the servant girl made her appearance, and stated that on the Saturday evening previous she had been discharged by Captain Orson, who told her not to call for her discharge until Monday. In the meantime certain circumstances transpired, from which it was inferred that the unfortunate occupant of the house had committed the treble crime of arson, murder, and suicide. Workmen were employed to clear away the rubbish, and beneath it were discovered, burned to cinders, the remains of four persons, supposed to be those of Orson, his wife, and two children.

STATE OF TIPPERARY.—In this district, recently the scene of such terrible crimes, very few outrages have been reported during the present week. The townland meetings, got up by the Roman catholic clergy, are continued; and Mr Steele, the "head pacificator," has been visiting every parish in the northern division of Tipperary, vehemently denouncing the system of agrarian crime. A townland meeting was held on Ash Wednesday, in Newport. Previous notice having been given from the altars in the various Roman catholic chapels in the district, several thousands of persons, farmers and labourers, attended. Mr Steele, Mr Caleb Powell, M.P., and several Roman catholic clergymen, were present, and addressed the meeting. The *Tipperary Vindicator* states that Mr Steele attended in Shinrone and Cloughjordan on Friday and that he was to hold a "monster meeting" in Dunkerrin on Sunday.

SCOTLAND.

PUBLIC NURSERIES FOR CHILDREN.—An important institution has been established at Glasgow, for the accommodation of young children whose parents have to leave them while at daily labour. A large building, in an open part of the city, has been selected for the operations of this benevolent institution, and its results have already been highly encouraging. The inmates are from one to four years of age. Some of them, whose mothers are employed during the day, remain in the institution from seven in the morning till the same hour in the evening. During that time they are carefully attended to, and supplied with nutritious food, for the trifling sum of twopence. Others, such as orphans, receive, in addition, comfortable lodging at night for the same insignificant sum. There are sleeping apartments, and also a room in which the children are tended by nurses, and, if competent, taught some useful lesson, by means of drawings or pictures similar to those used in infant schools. The *Manchester Guardian* recommends the plan as being well adapted to the circumstances of Manchester; and on Wednesday last published a letter from Sir Thomas Potter, dated Hastings, in which he says:—

"I highly approve your benevolent suggestion of a similar institution at Manchester. It is peculiarly applicable to our town, where the great demand for female labour in factories unavoidably exposes numbers of young children to neglect and fatal accidents. I need not say how gratifying it will be to my feelings to co-operate with my fellow-townsmen in carrying into effect this philanthropic scheme; which, I doubt not, will meet with universal approval, and be adopted with as little delay as possible."

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT—EIGHT LIVES LOST.—One of those sad calamities that too often cast a gloom over a whole neighbourhood occurred on Tuesday se'nnight. The scene of this frightful affair is a reservoir for the supply of water to the Monkland canal, called Bogfoot Loch, which is situated in the parish of Shotts, about four miles east from Holytown, and near a village called Gutters, on the south-east road leading from Edinburgh to Glasgow. The unfortunate sufferers were all boys between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years. It would appear that, while pulling heather convenient to the loch, they had gone on the ice to slide; one of their mothers observing them called them off, but they did not obey. Night coming on without bringing to each home its youthful inmate, an alarm arose. Mrs. Lochhead, who had seen her son and the other boys on the loch was the means of directing attention to the fatal spot; but no trace of them was found there, and it was for a time thought that they had removed to a place of less danger; but on a closer examination, the truth, in all its sad reality, flashed on the bewailing mothers. Every effort, however, failed to get the bodies. The water is said to be about twenty-five feet deep at the place, so that the sluices of the dam had to be drawn, and the whole eight were got, near each other, on Wednesday morning. The scene during the night and up to the present is beyond description. Fathers, mothers, and sorrowing friends, were bewailing the untimely fate of their children. The names of the sufferers are Lochhead, two brothers, and two brothers of the name of Main; the other lads are Clyde, Miller, Wardrop, and Marshall. As all who were on the ice at the time it broke were drowned, we can only conjecture how the accident happened.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

During the year ended Jan. 5, London contributed to the Customs duties £11,354,702; Liverpool, £4,121,522; Bristol, £996,750; Hull, £525,418; Newcastle, £494,524.

Miscellaneous.

FACTS FOR POLITICAL REFORMERS.—The following facts, selected from statistical information contained in the *Complete Suffrage Almanack* for 1845, are well worthy of being held in remembrance by every radical reformer:—

"Were the land tax levied at the rate of 20 per cent., as was originally the case, and as in strict justice it ought, it would yield £6,500,000 per annum to the revenue, or at least four times its present value."

"It is estimated that, by the non-imposition of the probate and legacy duty on *real* property, which is laid upon *personal* property, the landed interest have saved for themselves in taxation £2,585,000 annually, or £77,564,000 in 33 years."

"In Great Britain the proportion of taxation borne by land is one-thirty-fourth; in France two-thirds; in Prussia and Austria one-half; and yet the landed interest talks of its special burdens!"

"It is estimated by Mr Williams, M.P., that of the excise and customs duties, which constitute two-thirds of the revenue, nearly one-half is paid by the working and industrious classes, who have no share in the government."

"Mr Hearn calculates that a labouring man, with an income of £24 a year, pays £8, or one-third, in indirect taxes to landowners and other monopolists."

"It is estimated that a family, with a weekly expenditure of £5 3s., has to pay in government taxes 11s. 11d., landlord taxes, 24s. 2d.; West India planters' taxes, 3s.; making a total of £1 19s. 1d. out of £5 3s."

"The annual cost to the country of the present corn laws is at least £15,000,000; weekly, £238,460. And all this to keep up the rents of a few thousand landowners."

"The present sugar duties are maintained at a sacrifice to the people of £2,600,000 per annum."

"Almost every mouthful of food the people eat is taxed, except turtle, turbot, and lobsters—luxuries enjoyed chiefly by the aristocracy."

"Tea pays a duty of 2s. 1d. per lb. The poor labourer who buys Bohea, worth 1s. a lb., pays 200 per cent. duty; the shopkeeper, who can afford to buy souchong worth 2s., pays 100 per cent.; while the rich man, who drinks his gunpowder worth 4s., pays 50 per cent. The tobacco of the poor man pays 600 per cent.; the cigar of the rich man 105 per cent."

"If a poor man should give £20 for a modicum of land, he has to pay a stamp duty of five per cent. upon the deed of conveyance; if a rich man should give £10,000 for an estate, the stamp duty on its conveyance is a mere fraction of one per cent. in the amount!"

"The law of the landed interest, made through their parliamentary delegates, subjects the savings of an honest mechanic to heavy probate and legacy duties; whilst their thousands of acres, securing rentals of thousands of pounds, are free from either of these iniquitously partial exactions."

"The total charge for the army and navy, after a twenty-eight years' peace, amounts to fourteen millions and a half per annum. We now maintain 30,700 more soldiers than in the year preceding the Reform bill."

"From the year 1809 to 1840, upwards of five millions was granted by parliament for the support of the established churches of England, Scotland, and Ireland."

"One person only out of every seven adult males in the United Kingdom is represented in parliament. A large proportion of these may be said to be practically disfranchised, since less than two hundred thousand out of the one million electors return a majority to the House of Commons. The number of adult males, according to the census of 1841, is 6,645,246; the number of electors who have it in their power to return a majority to the House of Commons form, therefore, but one thirty-third part of the adult male population. Thus, one-fifth of the electoral body, or one thirty-third part of the adult males, have the power of making laws to bind the other thirty-two thirty-thirds. The political influence of all Scotland, with its 85,244 electors, and 630,328 adult males, is neutralised by 31 English boroughs, with only 9,865 electors, and 41,500 adult males. The voice of all Ireland, with its 117,448 electors, and 1,890,743 adult males, is silenced by 66 English boroughs, having 26,443 electors, and 122,500 adult males. The influence of 28 of the most important cities and boroughs of the United Kingdom, comprising all the great seats of manufacturing and commercial industry, with a united constituency of 203,946 electors, and an adult population of 916,926, is counterbalanced by 31 boroughs, having 9,862 electors, and 41,560 adult males."

Here, then, we have a key to all the illustrations of class legislation above referred to.

RAILWAYS AND THE BOARD OF TRADE.—We copy the following paragraph from an able article on the above subject in the *Economist* of Saturday:—"It appears that shortly after the appointment of Sir James Graham's private secretary as a member of this board, his brother was engaged by the South Eastern railway company, at a large salary, as manager of that line, in which position he still continues. The standing rules of the house require that railway companies intending to apply for an act in the ensuing session of parliament, should deposit plans of the lines with the clerk of the peace in the county, and at the board of trade, on or before the 30th of Nov. After that day, however, it was known that this order had not been complied with by the South Eastern line, and, in consequence, that it was thought impossible for them to go to parliament in the next session, for their several new lines. The consequence was a considerable fall in their shares. Notwithstanding this, however, towards the end of December it was known that, among others in the confidence of the directors, Mr William O'Brien had been a buyer of several hundred shares of that company; and, to the surprise of many, on the 17th of Jan. the report of the board of trade came out in favour of nearly all its proposed undertakings, and against nearly all its opponents, although the line was considered entirely out of court by its omission of standing orders; and on the next day the following notice was posted in the stock exchange in the usual course of business:—If 100 new Dover shares, bought in the name of William O'Brien at 84 p.m. are not delivered on Wednesday 22nd instant, they will be bought in by J. W. Scott. Jan. 18th, 1845."

—These shares at that time being worth £22 premium. It was, moreover, stated that this was only a part of much larger transactions.

STATE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE LAST QUARTER.—The number of deaths registered in the 115 districts for the autumn quarter, ending December, amounted to 43,956; being an increase of 3,160 above the yearly average of five years, and 3,276 over that of the five autumns of 1838-42. The total deaths in the year amounted to 167,708; or to 2.1 per cent., making a correction for increase of the population. 13,656 deaths were registered in the metropolis for the quarter, and 50,423 for the year, or 2.6 per cent. In the week ending December 21, 1,393 deaths were recorded; being an excess of 403 above the average of the five autumns, and the greatest number registered in any one week since the Registration Act came into operation. Smallpox and scarlatina have been epidemic in the metropolis. Erysipelas and child-bed fever have also been more than usually fatal. Ten deaths from that rare disease diabetes were registered. The registrars in the provinces state the excess of deaths to have occurred principally from smallpox, measles, scarlatina, and typhus; a great number of deaths have occurred from pulmonary diseases, and been referred to old age. 117 deaths from smallpox took place at Blackburn; 81 without vaccination. The registrars throughout the country state that the deaths from smallpox rarely occur after vaccination performed effectually by qualified medical practitioners. Districts in which the mortality was above the average of five autumn quarters—north, south, east, and west districts of the metropolis, Brighton, Isle of Wight, Norwich, Winchester, Yarmouth, Plymouth, Penzance, Shrewsbury, Liverpool, West Derby, Blackburn, Chorlton, York, and Merthyr Tydfil. Districts in which the mortality was below the average of five autumn quarters—Lincoln, Preston, Bolton, Wigan, Sunderland, Gateshead, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Newtown. The rain was 9.22 inches, the greater part of which fell in the latter part of October and in November; the wind in the coldest week was N.N.E., and its daily horizontal movement during the quarter was 123 miles. The meteorological observations from the country, although not yet taken upon a uniform plan, are in many respects highly interesting, and will, it may be hoped, ultimately end in a connected scheme of systematic observation with comparable instruments all over the empire. In the meantime, the meteorologists are recommended to consult the last volume of the Greenwich observations drawn up by the Astronomer Royal.—*Registrar-General's Quarterly Returns.*

FATHER MATHEW.—The following letter from Father Mathew to Joseph Sturge, Esq., of Birmingham, with the subjoined observations by the latter gentleman, have been published in the papers:—"As much censure has been cast upon Theobald Mathew for incurring liabilities which he was unable to discharge, even though for the benefit of the most degraded of his fellow-countrymen, I think it right to publish the following letter, and to state that the large sum alluded to was promised by a rich relation, who died suddenly intestate, before it was paid; otherwise it would have enabled him to discharge all the claims upon him without any aid from other quarters. I earnestly hope that the liberality of the public will be still further evinced by additional contributions, as at present I understand the amount collected falls far short of liquidating the debt Theobald Mathew has incurred in the great temperance cause to which he is devoted. Respectfully, JOSEPH STURGE."

"Birmingham, 1st month, 30, 1845."

"MY DEAR FRIEND—

"There is a point upon which I would fain give some explanation.

"Several enemies, it is true, to the great temperance movement, have accused me of imprudence for contracting debts without the ability to liquidate them. Appearances, I confess, are against me; but I was aware that no one could lose by my embarrassments, except myself and my immediate family.

"If I had received the large sum of money, I had the strongest reason to expect all would be well.

"Disappointed in this hope, I sacrificed everything, and by family arrangements was enabled to pay the medal manufacturers, who were my only creditors.

"During my whole life, I never owed a shilling to any man, postponing the supplying of even actual wants until I had money to pay for the necessary article.

"It is true that interest on money borrowed from our banks, and premiums on life insurances, pressed heavily upon me; but I was consoled by the reflection, that even at the price of my peace of mind, I had satisfied my creditors.

"My poor brothers, two of whom died in the prime of life within the last year, were grievous sufferers by my exertions for the public good, they having a large capital invested in distilleries, yet they came forward generously to assist me in my difficulties.

"Accept my heartfelt thanks, and believe me, with profound respect, dear Mr Sturge,

"Yours affectionately,

"THEOBALD MATHEW."

"Cork, January 25th, 1845."

A TRUE STORY.—Britannia was in a very bad way, and was getting lower and lower under the treatment of her doctors, when a new one offered to try his hand. The doctor was known to be a bit of a quack, but when every other advice has failed one is not quite so particular about the character of the physician, and out of mere desperation on the part of the patient's friends, a notorious quack may be called in just to try what he can do. The doctor accordingly came, and mixed a very strong dose of very nauseous ingredients, including several grains of inquisitorial essence, and a very few scruples of delicacy, which were rolled into a very large pill and labeled "income, tax." The medicine set the patient up for a time and gave the appearance of increased strength, but

it never seemed to agree with the constitution. It undoubtedly cured the disease for which it was administered, but left several very bitter complaints in place of the original malady. Notwithstanding the weakness of the patient the quack is so unwilling to abandon his favourite nostrum, that he has been recently heard to say to poor Britannia—"Come, only three more."—*Punch.*

IMPROVEMENT OF THE PIANOFORTE.—An addition has been made to the powers of the pianoforte, of such magnitude, that it is equivalent to the invention of a new instrument. It consists of a piece of mechanism, of a nature so simple and compact, that it can be added with the greatest ease to any pianoforte already constructed, without in the slightest degree interfering with the machinery of the instrument. This additional mechanism (which Mr Coleman, the inventor, has called "the Æolian attachment") is upon the principle of the seraphine, producing the beautiful prolonged tones of that instrument; but the peculiarity of Mr Coleman's invention is, that these tones can be produced along with the ordinary tones of the pianoforte. The performer can, at pleasure, produce the sounds of the pianoforte only, or he can combine these with the pure Æolian tones of the new mechanism. A few days ago we heard Mr Benedict perform upon this instrument, and this able musician drew from it a variety of effects of the most novel and beautiful kind. A person listening in an adjoining room would suppose that he heard a piece of brilliant pianoforte music, accompanied by three or four exquisite performers on wind instruments. So rich and various are the resources afforded by this most ingenious invention, that (as we heard Mr Benedict observe) it will give rise to a new style of pianoforte composition. As an accompaniment to vocal music it will be invaluable, as it will enable the accompanist to introduce, with the utmost ease, all those effects produced by the harmony of prolonged sounds and the delicious breathing of wind instruments, of which the pianoforte has hitherto been quite incapable.—*Morning Chronicle.*—On Friday evening a public concert was given at the Hanover Square rooms, chiefly with the view of testing the value of this new invention. Of its success the *Chronicle* says, "Mr Benedict, in the course of his brilliant and varied performances, made it evident that the pianoforte, thus improved, is actually rendered a new instrument, possessed of resources and means of effect of which no other instrument is capable. The audience, which was crowded and fashionable, appeared struck and delighted with this musical novelty, and we have no doubt that, ere long, the Æolian attachment will be regarded as an essential part of the pianoforte."

PUBLIC HOT WATER BATHS IN CHINA.—In the town of Shanghai, as well as in many other large Chinese towns, there are a number of hot water bathing establishments, which must be of great importance as regards the health and comfort of the natives. Let me describe one which I passed daily during my residence in Shinghae. There are two outer rooms used for undressing and dressing; the first and largest is for the poorer classes, the second for those who consider themselves more respectable, and who wish to be more private. As you enter the largest of these rooms, a placard which is hung near the door informs you what the charges are, and a man stands there to receive the money on entrance. Arranged in rows down the middle and round the sides of both rooms are a number of small boxes or lockers, furnished with lock and key, into which the visitors put their clothes, and where they can make sure of them when they return from the bathing room. The bathing room is entered by a small door at the further end of the building, and is about thirty feet long and twenty wide; the bath occupying the whole space, except a narrow path round the sides. The water is from one foot to eighteen inches deep, and the sides are lined and covered with marble slabs, from which the bathers step into the water, and on which they sit and wash themselves; the furnace is placed on the outside of one of the ends, and the flues are carried through below the centre of the bath. The establishment in the afternoon and evening is crowded with visitors, and on entering the bath room, the first impression is almost insupportable; the hot steam or vapour meets you at the door, filling the eyes and ears, and causing perspiration to run from every pore of the body; it almost darkens the place, and the Chinamen seen in this imperfect light, with their brown skins and long tails, sporting amongst the water, render the scene a most ludicrous one to an Englishman. Those visitors who use the common room pay only six copper cash; the other class pay eighteen, but they in addition have a cup of tea and a pipe of tobacco from the proprietors. I may mention that one hundred copper cash amount to about 4d. of our money; so that the first class enjoy a hot bath for about one farthing, and the other a bath, a private room, a cup of tea, and a pipe of tobacco for something less than one penny.—*Athenæum.*

THE SPEECH MAKER.—A smart little sketch entitled "Speech-making" occurs in *Colburn's New Monthly Magazine* for January, which gives some hard hits at the prevailing weakness of mankind for hearing themselves talk. We extract one passage:—"Who has not known a pleasant party—utterly done for—every element of its pleasantness extinguished by the demon of speech-making throwing its wet blanket over it? The interesting conversation—the smartly maintained argument—the quick repartee—the good-humoured badinage—all paralysed in a moment by some unhappy speech maker, who rises from his chair, like a ghost through a trap door, and in an unfaltering stolid voice asks permission to propose a toast. It is granted, of course. You know that all is over—the blow has been struck

—enjoyment is lying sprawling under the table, dying or dead. You may as well take your hat and go home disconsolately in the rain—you know what will follow. You know that the wretch is going to propose your host's health—you know all what a creature of the kind says—he is always sure that the toast he is about to give requires no comment—that its object requires no eulogium from him to make them all do that toast due honour. They all know their friend—their excellent, their valued friend—and that, as surely as he is known, he is esteemed—that they all can and do appreciate those many excellent qualities which have so generally endeared him, either as a husband, a father, or a friend. Knowing this, and feeling this, he did believe himself called upon to &c., &c., &c. All the commonplace cant of compliments is duly gone through; and the worst of it is that the matter don't end here. The toastee (there is no law against coining words as against coining half-crowns) is in duty bound to return thanks, which process he performs by disclaiming *seriatim* all the flattery lavished upon him, and too often winding up by plastering it more upon another, who in his turn repeats the interesting operation. And so it goes round—the mania is as catching as the small pox. Everybody proposes everybody else's health. It would be an insult given to leave out anybody—received, to be left out by everybody. Conversation, amusing or instructive, gives place to a rapid round of compliments, neither instructive, nor amusing, nor sincere. You no more mean what you say when you make an ordinary buttering, after dinner speech than you do what you write, when you finish a letter with 'your most obedient servant,' and address it to a fellow whom you mean to kick the first time you can catch him."

STEAM POWER SUPERSEDED.—For centuries upon centuries, till within our own days, water, as the origin of motive power, has had the supremacy over steam. For the last forty or fifty years steam has been making rapid strides towards the complete subjugation of the power of water; but like all unnatural or forced operations, its victory appears near its end, and the power of water once more assumes its wonted superiority, and eclipses once more and for ever the power of steam. No one can be surprised at this who reflects that, while the power or laws of matter are innate or inherent, the power of steam is only acquired, and may be said to be artificial or unnatural, being forced by the ingenuity of man into that state upon which its power entirely depends. We have been led into these remarks by the circumstance of having been favoured with the inspection of an invention for which a patent has lately been taken out; and if we may be permitted to judge of it from the opinions of some of our leading scientific men, who have investigated it, and who declare that "they cannot (however astounding its effects) see any error or fallacy in it, or any reason why it should not answer," we must look upon its success as certain. But what inspires us with even more confidence is that, while the structure of the new invention is so extremely simple that a child may comprehend it, it does not violate any one law in natural philosophy. Moreover, the inventor (a professional gentleman) is a man of scientific acquirements, well acquainted with nature's laws, and perfectly aware of the various inventions, and the causes of their failure, which have of late years been devised for the purpose of superseding steam, whether by condensed air, water power, mechanical contrivances, electricity, &c. He does not, he says, pretend to have created power; this, he properly observes, is impossible, but has merely availed himself of those laws or properties with which the Creator has endowed matter, and, by a combination of the same, to make them (as the inventors of steam engines, water-mills, &c., have) subservient to the use of man. The fundamental principle on which the new engine is founded is precisely similar to that of the hydraulic press, the power of which every one knows can only be limited by the strength of the materials of which it is made. But what has hitherto rendered the power of the hydraulic press inapplicable to the production of motive power is, that, just in proportion as the power is gained speed is lost, and *vice versa*. In the present invention, however, unlimited power is gained without the loss of speed, the piston of the large cylinder traveling at each stroke, with the power gained, just the same distance as the piston of the lesser cylinder. This power and this speed, which are in inverse ratio of each other, appear by this most important invention (however paradoxical) actually combined. We are not at liberty to give the public a more particular account of the nature of this invention than the words of the title of the patent, viz.:—"The hydro-mechanic apparatus, which by a combination of hydraulic and mechanical properties, on well-known scientific principles, is intended to supersede the use of fire and steam in working and propelling all kinds of machinery and engines"—thus effecting an enormous saving, and avoiding the imminent danger arising from the explosive nature of steam. It may well be asked, where will human ingenuity end?—*Morning Herald.*

THOUGHTS OF WOMEN.—This last half-century seems to have wrought an ill change in the intellectual station of women. That plan of enforcing "accomplishments" has at last so diluted and oversweetened their minds that they have gradually become more similar the one to the other than thinking creatures should be. Miss Alpha love music with exactly the same degree of frenzy as Miss Omega; yet neither the first, nor the last, nor any one of the intermediate sisters, can write so charming a letter, nor converse a quarter so well, as her stately and calm grandmamma, who tells us about Mrs Siddons.—*Quarterly Review.*

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

Baths for the workmen on the Grand Junction railway have recently been erected by the company.

FIVE FACTS.—A firm faith is the best divinity, a good life the best philosophy, a clear conscience the best law, honesty the best policy, and temperance the best physic.

The proprietors of the *Medical Times* have offered prizes of twenty-five guineas, ten guineas, and five guineas, for the three best series of hospital reports of not fewer than twelve cases each, by medical students at home or abroad.

The Terrible, the largest war-steamer in the world, 226 feet in length and 46 feet 6 inches in breadth, was launched at Deptford on Thursday, in the presence of a great concourse, with the usual ceremonies and hilarities.

A valuable fishing-bank has been discovered eighty miles to the east of Scarborough. The fish are abundant, especially soles. The bank has been named the Silver Bank.

IRISH ELOQUENCE!—"If it were attempted to bring in any measure injurious to his country, he would feel it to be his duty to go over and die on the floor of the House in carrying out a vexatious opposition to it. He would then come back to Ireland, and ask his countrymen 'Are you for repeal now?'" —Mr O'Connell at the Conciliation Hall, Feb. 3, 1845.

Archelaus once said to an envious man that was very sorrowful, "I know not well whether evil hath chanced to thee, or good to another;" signifying thereby that envious people are as sorrowful for others' prosperity as for their own adversity.

THE SCHOOLMASTER ABROAD.—A newspaper called "The Cherokee Advocate," is published in the town of Tahlequah, in the Cherokee country. Portions of it are written in the aboriginal language. It is said to be edited with much ability and taste.

The Directors of the Dublin and Drogheda railway have presented Mr Mathew with a beautiful silver ticket, giving him a perpetual free passage in the first-class carriages on that railway. The inscription on the medal states that it was presented as a tribute of esteem for Mr Mathew's labours in the temperance cause.

IMPORTANCE OF FIRESIDE EDUCATION.—The fireside is a seminary of infinite importance. It is important, because it is universal, and because the education it bestows, being woven in the woof of childhood, gives form and colour to the whole texture of life. There are few who can receive the honours of a college, but all are graduates of the hearth.

A SHARP RETORT.—A very ignorant nobleman, observing one day at dinner a person eminent for his philosophical talents intent on choosing the delicacies of the table, said to him, "What! do philosophers choose delicacies?" "Why not?" returned the other; "do you think, my lord, that the good things of this world were made only for block-heads?"

DESTRUCTIVE VENERATION.—Will you believe, I picked up at a stall an old edition of Waller, and in it I found a bit of black paper stuck inside? Underneath it was written, "This is a bit of one of the celebrated cartoons at Hampton Court!" Now gentlemen, suppose every visitor for 200 years had been inspired with similar veneration, how many cartoons do you think would now be in existence.—Haydon's *Lectures on Painting*.

An appendix to the army estimates enumerates the standing armies of Europe as follows:—Bavaria, 43,000 men; Belgium, 100,000; Denmark, 25,000; Rome, 14,680; Portugal, 21,500; Hanover, 20,000; Holland, 43,000; Naples, 44,300; Saxony, 13,000; Spain, 60,000; Sweden, 41,500; and Switzerland, 64,000.

EFFECTS OF EMPHASIS.—A writer on English grammar gives the following example of wrong emphasis:—A clergyman, on reading the 1st of Kings, xxviii. 27, generally placed the emphasis on the words denoted by italics:—"And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me, the ass. And they saddled him."

CARRYING HOME ONE'S OWN WORK.—A venerable lady of a celebrated physician in Boston, one day casting her eye out of the window, observed her husband in the funeral procession of one of his patients, at which she exclaimed—"I do wish my husband would keep away from such processions—it appears too much like a tailor carrying home his own work."

MAXIMS ON TIME.—Time is like a creditor, who allows an ample space to make up accounts, but is inexorable at last. Time is like a verb that can only be used in the present tense. Time, well employed, gives that health and vigour to the soul which rest and retirement afford to the body. Time never sits heavily on us but when it is badly employed. Time is a grateful friend; use it well, and it never fails to make a suitable requital.

The liberty of a people consists in being governed by laws which they have made themselves, under whatsoever form it be of government; the liberty of a private man, in being master of his own time and actions, as far as they consist with the laws of God and his country.—Cowley.

It seems that the opinion of the Irish law officers on the great snipe question only bore on it as it respects the Mutiny act. With regard to all civilians, snipes are game.

At a temperance tea party the other day in the Isle of Man, some mischievous person contrived to convey into the boiling water about to be used for tea, a quantity of tobacco.

Literature.

Rambles in Germany and Italy, in 1840, 1842, and 1843. By MRS SHELLEY. In Two Vols. Moxon, Dover street. 1844.

WE can scarcely ever open a book of European travels without thinking of the exclamation of the Gascon, "Perish those who have said our good things before us!" and wondering how, on so common a route, any modern traveler can find even a blade of grass which has not been described before. The name of Mrs Shelley, though we could never get through her celebrated work, did, it is true, excite, in the present case, some interest; yet, even with this *prestige*, our expectations from her volumes were small. Something, however, there is in a book of travels, if it have any liveliness in it, which is always attractive. Who can see the snowy Alps—or the plains of Italy—or the blue Mediterranean mirrored, though for the thousandth time, and catch none of the inspiration? Even thus, when we had ended the second volume, we felt as if some summer excursion was over, and we were returning with a sigh to the unpoetical duties of life.

These volumes are somewhat loosely written; with some inaccuracies, and an occasional vulgarism; without any great perception of morality, and with a tone of religious sentiment which smacks here and there of a kind of poetical insanity; yet with a woman's perception, a woman's sprightliness, and with snatches of a woman's tenderness. In short, they are very delightful reading; though reading of a kind which will not remain long upon the mind. Perhaps the description of Paris will serve as well as any extract to illustrate the style of the fair authoress:—

"There is a cheerfulness in the aspect of Paris that at once enlivens the visitor. True, the want of *trottoirs* is intolerable. From the absence of drains, the state of the streets is filthy; the danger of being run over by hack-cabs, which turn short round the corners, and accelerate their pace on purpose so to do, is imminent. The gravel of the Tuilleries and the Champs Elysées is not half so inviting as the sward of Hyde park; yet there is an air of cheerfulness and blitheness about Paris, which seems to take the burden from your spirits, which *will* weigh so heavily on the other side of the Channel. Nor, perhaps, in any city in the world is there a scene more *magnifique*—to use their own word in their own sense—than the view at high noon from the terrace of the Tuilleries, near the river, overlooking the Seine and its bridges; the Place de la Concorde, with its wide asphaltic pavements, sparkling fountains, and fantastic lanterns, looking out upon the Barriere de l'Etoile one way, or down upon the horse chesnut avenues of the gardens on the other. There is gaiety, animation, life; you cannot find the same in London. Why? One cause, of course, is the smoke of the sea-coal fires; another results from the absence of fountains. When will London have these ornaments, which could be so readily constructed from our great supply of water? Truly, in France the water is all used ornamentally, and there is a sad deficiency for utility; but the *coup-d'œil* of a fountain is more pleasing than the consciousness of a pipe underground, at least to the passing traveler."—Vol. i., pp. 7, 8.

The route described in these volumes is not very regular. From Paris Mrs Shelley passes into Germany, and thence to Italy, where, with her party, she makes a short residence on the banks of Lake Como. Thence she journeys to Milan, and thence through Geneva home. In a second journey Holland, Prussia, Austria, and the Tyrol, are then passed over, and the route is through Lombardy again into Italy, ending, *via* Rome, at Sorrento.

Of her lodging-house on the banks of Lake Como we have the following description of an Italian family:—

"I wish I could, by my imperfect words, bring before you not only the grander features, but every minute peculiarity, every varying hue, of this matchless scene. The progress of each day brings with it its appropriate change. When I rise in the morning, and look out, our own side is bathed in sunshine, and we see the opposite mountains raising their black masses in sharp relief against the eastern sky, whilst dark shadows are flung by the abrupt precipices on the fair lake beneath.

The inn is kept by the brothers Brentani, who form a sort of patriarchal family. . . . The eldest brother, Giovanni, a tall stout man, attends to the accounts. He is married. Peppina, his wife, is of good parentage; but being left an orphan in childhood, lost her all through the rascality of guardians, during the troubled times of Napoleon's wars and downfall. She waits on us. She is hard-working, good-humoured, and endowed with all the innate courtesy which forms, together with their simplicity of manner, the charm of the Italians. Luigi, the next brother, who welcomed us from the steam boat, is put forward to do the honours as the beau of the establishment. He has all the airs of one, when, each day, he goes to receive guests from the steamer, with his white, low-crowned hat and velvet jacket, his slim figure and light mustachios. He waits on us also. Then there is Battista, who acts as cook; Bernardo, who seems to be a sort of under waiter; and Paulo—or Piccolo, as he is usually called, to his great disdain—a handsome lad who runs about and does everything. These are all brothers. Poor Battista says his only ambition is to get a good night's sleep. He is up early and down late, and grows infinitely thin upon it."—Vol. i., pp. 68, 69.

The second volume is decidedly, to our taste, superior to the former. In revisiting some of the scenes with which she had been heretofore familiar, Mrs Shelley supplies information which we are glad to receive:—

"When I was here last (Venice), the duties on all

imports to Venice were high, living became expensive, and the city languished. It is now a free port; everything enters without paying the slightest toll, with the exception of tobacco. The Emperor of Austria grows a wretched plant, to which he gives this name, on his paternal acres, and will not allow his subjects to smoke anything else. If that were the only misdeed of his government, I should not quarrel with him, but only with the people who do not thereon forego the idle habit of cigars altogether. The free port gives a far greater appearance of life and activity to the city than it formerly had, and some luxuries, such as Turkish coffee, and, indeed, all things from the east, are much better and cheaper than with us. To the Venetians coffee stands in lieu of wine, beer, spirits, and every exciting drink; and they obtain it in perfection at a very low price. The Austrian is doing what he can to revive trade, so to increase his store; for two-thirds of the taxes of the Regno Lombardo-Veneto go to Vienna. He desires that railroads should be made; and one is being constructed from Milan to Venice; nay, they are in the act of building a bridge for the rail-road carriages from Mestre to the centre of the city. However convenient, it is impossible not to repine at this innovation. The power, the commerce, the arts of Venice are gone; the bridge will rob it of its romance."—Vol. ii., pp. 103, 104.

Several pages are devoted to the subject of modern Italian literature, which, at present, holds, we are informed, a very high rank in Europe. The revival, begun at the close of the eighteenth century by Alfieri, has been followed up by two literary men of the greatest influence—Manzoni and Niccolini. The former is described as "of middle stature and gentle aspect, resembling the portrait of Petrarch." His soul is filled with love of the beautiful, the elevated, and the pure. These qualities shine forth particularly in his odes, which, since Petrarch, are the most perfect lyrics in the language; and, among them, the "Juni Sacri" are distinguished for the exquisite finish and poetic fire that adorns the fervent piety which they breathe. More powerful and popular than Manzoni is Niccolini. He is a tragic and lyric poet as well as a writer of prose. "His mind full of the verses of Dante, Tasso, and Ariosto, he reproduced on the stage, garbed in simple and sublime poetry, the theatre of the Greeks." "The 'Foscarini,' a national subject, in which he paints, in the liveliest and blackest colours, the dark tyranny of the Venetian aristocracy, had a success on the stage previously unexampled in Italy. Animated by this success, Niccolini composed the 'Sicilian Vespers,' which is, in fact, a protest in favour of Italy." An interesting and sad incident occurred on the first representation of this play. The mother of Niccolini, who was present, was so overwhelmed by the success of her son, that she was carried in a dying state from the theatre, and soon breathed her last.

We cannot follow further. We hope our readers will meet with the volumes. A very interesting chapter is devoted to "The Carbonari." This sect is supposed to be derived from the free-masons of Germany, and its origin in Italy bears the date of 1799. The Neapolitans, however, claim its origin as their own. For their history we must refer to the volumes themselves. Suffice it to say that the name marks a secret society labouring for the independence of their country, to the frequent terror of the Italian sovereigns, often overthrown for a time, but never entirely exterminated, and still diffusing sentiments with which, were they openly avowed, instead of being secretly diffused, in conjunction with practices which cannot be justified, would deserve the admiration and aid of every real lover of liberty.

An Inquiry into the Organisation and Government of the Apostolic Church; particularly with reference to the claims of Episcopacy. By ALBERT BARNES. Aylott and Jones, Paternoster row. 1845. pp. 270.

The following are the heads of the chapters contained in this little volume:—Chap. 1. Reasons why the argument on the constitution of the church should be confined to the scriptures. Chaps 2, 3. The claims which are advanced by episcopacy. Chap. 4. The constitution of the church as established by the Saviour and his apostles. The discussion of the subject is able, concise, and temperate, and may be very advantageously recommended to those who are interested in the settlement of so important a question.

Universal Atonement Refuted. By the late Rev. A. FULLER. With an Appendix, comprising a summary view of the sentiments and principles of the Scots Baptist churches. London: Fullarton, Newgate street; Dyer, and Snow. 1845. pp. 24.

The title page of this tract so fully explains its nature and objects that any further expansion of them is unnecessary.

Hymns and Chants.

Tune Book to the Hymns and Chants. Ward and Co. 1844.

THESE little books, in their previous edition, were received with extraordinary and deserved favour. Our Sunday schools needed such a stimulus. The works are now greatly improved and enlarged. They are as appropriate for families as for schools, and cannot be introduced without special advantages.

The Encyclical Letter of our Lord Pope Gregory XVI. Translated into English by Sir C. E. SMITH, Bart. London: Snow. 1844. pp. 33.

THERE is an established connexion between solemnity and stupidity. "*Hec, quanta species, cerebrum non habet!*" We can conceive of no motto better adapted to this ridiculous effusion—pontifical though it be! It is one of the class which instructs by amusing. Priam's arrow was not more harmless. We are obliged to Sir C. Smith, however, for having been at the trouble of translating it. It is said of the present Pope, that he turns sick when carried about in St Peter's. We are sure that he succeeds in imparting that sensation.

Congregational Dissent Apostolical Conformity; an Introductory Discourse. By A. J. MORRIS. Bartlett, Paternoster row. 1844. pp. 24.
We think we have never seen the subject of a scriptural church so simply, clearly, and effectively set forth in so small a compass.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *The Continental Echo.* Nos 1, 2.
2. *Hydropathy for the People.* By W. HORSELL.
3. *Cobbins's Child's Commentator.* Part III.
4. *Political Dictionary.* Part III.
5. *Look to the End.* By Mrs ELLIS.
6. *Old England.* Part 14.
7. *The Pictorial Sunday Book.* Part 14.
8. *The Domestic Bible.* No. 4.
9. *Juvenile Missionary Herald.* Nos 1 and 2.
10. *The Church of Christ: What is it?* Premium Tract.
11. *The Grave-yard Rate; a Letter.*
12. *The Voice of Israel.* No. 10.

Religious Intelligence.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SHIP, THE "DOVE."—The "Dove" left the East India docks on Friday morning, the 31st ult. It had been arranged that the missionary party who proceed in her should embark at Cowes, and the following Tuesday was the day fixed upon for their embarkation, if the vessel should by that time have arrived. So favourable, however, was the wind, and so rapid the progress of the "Dove" round to the Isle of Wight, that long before daylight on Lord's day morning, she was at anchor in Cowes roads. The missionary party having joined her on Tuesday, the "Dove" weighed anchor on the following morning, and passed through the Needles with a favourable wind. It is gratifying to know that this beautiful little vessel appears to have given the greatest satisfaction to all who have been enabled to judge of her sailing and sea-going qualities. The pilot who took her round from Blackwall to Cowes, gave the most satisfactory report of her stiffness under canvas, and of her general properties. Her speed, too, was found to be unusually great, the run down to Gravesend having only occupied little more than two hours; and the voyage from Gravesend to the Isle of Wight being accomplished in less than 20 hours. The Dove proceeds direct to Fernando Po.

ASHTON.—On Wednesday last the ordination of Mr C. DOWTHWAITE, late of Airedale college, took place in the independent chapel, Staleybridge. Mr R. Calvert, of Hyde, commenced the service by reading the scriptures and prayer; Mr J. Sutcliffe, of Ashton, delivered the introductory discourse and asked the usual questions; Mr J. Holgate, of Orrell, offered the ordination prayer; Mr W. Scott, president of Airedale college, gave the charge; and Dr Raffles, of Liverpool, preached to the people. Much interest appeared to be manifested during the service by a numerous auditory.

WEYMOUTH.—Mr J. C. Bodwell, A.M., resigned the pastoral charge of the church assembling at St Nicholas Street chapel, at the close of the year, on account of long-continued prostration of health. Having placed himself under the care of Dr Martin, at the Weymouth Hydropathic establishment, his health is so much improved, as to leave no doubt of its complete restoration within a comparatively brief period. This has induced the church at St Nicholas street—the congregation concurring—to extend to him a unanimous and earnest invitation to resume the pastoral oversight of them, offering to wait six months, if necessary, for his recovery.

PRIMITIVE METHODISTS.—This society opened Elim chapel, Fetter lane, Holborn, on February 2nd, 1845; sermons being preached by Messrs Garner, West, and Plesher—on the 9th by Messrs Hallam, Howcroft, and Holliday. Liberal collections were realised.

NEW MISSIONARY FOR BERBICE.—The first December mail arrived here on Friday last, the 27th, by the steamer Tweed. Among the passengers were the Rev. James Bowrey and lady. This gentleman, lately pastor of the independent church at Whitchurch, Hants, has been appointed to the mission station of the London Missionary Society at Rodborough, West coast, Berbice. He left Demerara for the scene of his future labours yesterday, in the Eliza Miller steamer.—*Guiana Congregational Record.*

Mr Edward Smith Price, B.A., of Abingdon, has resigned the pastoral office of the church of Christ assembling in the Lower chapel (baptist), Ock street, Abingdon, and has accepted an invitation to undertake the superintendence of affairs at Zion chapel, Windmill street, Gravesend, with a view to the immediate organisation of a baptist church. He proposes to enter on his new sphere of labour on Sunday, March 9th.

DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN METHODIST CHURCH.—The preparations for division in the southern section of the Methodist Episcopal church, still continue. Several circuits, however, in Virginia, Kentucky, and even Alabama, have declared that, in the event of separation, they will remain with the church. There are multitudes of anti-slavery men in the South, if their voices can only be heard. The opinion appears to gain ground, that the plan of separation adopted by the last general conference, is unconstitutional, and can never be carried into effect; and should this view prevail, which is very likely, the secession will be much smaller than was at first supposed. Bishop Soule has openly committed himself in favour of the South. His old anti-slavery notions seem to have abandoned him entirely. The Northern church enjoys peace and tranquillity, and the reports from the interior indicate a reviving state of religion. The secession of the pro-slavery men will, in no respect, injure the spirituality or efficiency of the church.—*Correspondent of the Watchman.*

BIRTHS.

Feb. 1, at Kingstown, the wife of Mr J. D. SMITH, independent minister, of Newry, of a daughter.

Feb. 1, at Cheltenham, the wife of Mr A. MORTON BROWN, independent minister, of a daughter.

Feb. 3, at East terrace, Cardiff, the wife of L. JENKINS, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 25, at St George's chapel, Southwark, SUSANNAH, second daughter of Mr H. C. HAST, of her Majesty's customs, London (late of Harwich), to Mr BLAMEY, of Union crescent, New Kent road.

Jan. 30, at Strangeways chapel, Manchester, by Dr Beard, Mr THOMAS HARGREAVES, of Salford, to ELLEN BRACKEN, only daughter of the late Benjamin HURD, Esq., solicitor, of London.

Feb. 4, at Jamaica Row chapel, Bermondsey, Mr JOSEPH RAYSON NOBLE, to Miss MARTHA JANE SOWER, of Long lane, Bermondsey.

Feb. 4, at West Ham, by Mr Edward Hoare, THOMAS FOWELL, second son of Sir T. FOWELL BUXTON, Bart, to RACHEL JANE, fifth daughter of Samuel GURNEY, Esq., of Upton, Essex.

In Stepney chapel, Lynn, by the pastor, Mr J. T. Wigner, Mr JOHN JEFFRIES, baptist minister, Downham, to ELIZABETH SARAH WILSON, of the same place.

Feb. 4, at Stepney chapel, Lynn, by Mr Wigner, Mr JAMES RIPPINGALE, to Miss MARY ANN HOLMES, both of Lynn. This is the thirtieth marriage solemnised in the above place of worship.

Feb. 5, at Rusholme Road chapel, Manchester, by Mr J. Griffin, Mr JOHN THOMSON, corn dealer, of that town, to ELLEN, eldest daughter of William CAVE, Esq., of Higher Ardwick.

Feb. 5, by license, at the independent chapel, Faversham, by Mr H. J. Rook, minister, Mr SAMUEL CORNFORD, of Faversham, grocer, son of the late Mr Samuel Cornford, of Maidstone, to CAROLINE, daughter of Mr Thomas DAY, of Marden, farmer.

Feb. 6, at Bond street meeting-house, Birmingham, by the pastor, Mr Thomas Morgan, Mr JOHN TONKS, printer, of 61, Hill street, EMMA, eldest daughter of Mr George JONES, of Constitution hill, Birmingham.

Feb. 8, at Loddsworth, Devon, by Mr John Hill, Mr THOMAS SHORT, jun., of Spring hill, Birmingham, to ANN, only daughter of Mr W. PHILPOT, High street, of the same town, and niece of Richard Peck, Esq., of Hazlewood house, near the former place.

Feb. 8, at the independent chapel, Prescott, by Mr James Scarisbrick, registrar, Mr GEORGE HARKER, chemist and druggist, to Miss SARAH RIGBY, both of the same place.

DEATHS.

Jan. 30, at Bridgetown, near Totnes, Devon, after a short illness, Miss SARAH WINDEATT, aged 77 years, sister of the late Mr Thomas White Windeatt, for many years pastor of the Congregational church, Totnes.

Feb. 1, at Frudochill, Frome, triumphantly in the faith and hope of the gospel, aged 37, SOPHIA, the beloved wife of Mr EVANS, independent minister of that place.

Feb. 2, Lady MARY BAGOT, relict of the Right Hon. Sir Charles Bagot, G.C.B., late Governor-general of Canada.

Feb. 5, at the residence of her son, in St James's palace, CHARLOTTE LOUISA, relict of the late celebrated Samuel WESLEY.

Feb. 7, at Chipping Barnet, NATH. ROBERTS, Esq., aged 81.

Feb. 8, at Testwood house, near Southampton, after an illness of several weeks, the Right Hon. WILLIAM STURGES BOURNE, son of Mr John Sturges, late chancellor of Winchester.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, February 7.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85.—

Canaan chapel, Foxhole, Glamorganshire.

BANKRUPTS.

BEARD, JOHN, Debtford, Kent, builder, Feb. 14, March 28: solicitor, Mr Govett, Upper North place, Gray's-inn road.

BRADSHAW, JAMES, 57, High street, Camden town, coal merchant, Feb. 18, March 26: solicitors, Messrs Scaddington and Son, Gordon street, Gordon square.

COLT, WILLIAM HENRY, Long Melford, Suffolk, grocer: Feb. 13, April 8: solicitors, Messrs Raimondi and Gooday, South square, Gray's inn, and Mr Downman, jun., Sudbury.

HAYWOOD, GEORGE, Luton, Bedfordshire, bricklayer, Feb. 14, March 21: solicitors, Mr Dyne, Lincoln's-inn fields, and Mr Waring, Luton.

RICHARDSON, JOHN, 37, Fish street hill, City, boot maker, Feb. 19, March 18: solicitor, Mr Charles Morris King, St Mary-axe.

RUGG, SAMUEL, Chamberlayne town, Hampshire, carpenter, Feb. 18, March 20: solicitor, Mr Paterson, Bouvrie street.

TAYNER, SAMUEL, 9, Sovereign mews, Paddington, bricklayer, Feb. 18, March 19: solicitor, Mr Chisholme, Cook's court, Lincoln's inn.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CADELL, PHILIP, jun., Magdalen bridge, near Fisher row, chemist, Feb. 12, March 5.

DUNN, JAMES, Glasgow, flesher, Feb. 13, March 5.

GAMACK, WILLIAM, late of Peterhead, banker, and now of Fairfield, Feb. 15, March 15.

McARTHUR, ALEXANDER, Achavaddy, Inverness-shire, grazier, Feb. 19, March 5.

DIVIDENDS.

Johnston, Adamson, and Hope, Whitehaven, Cumberland, bankers: third and final div. of 10d. and 35-100ths of a penny (in addition to 17s. 11d. previously declared), Feb. 17 to 24, and any subsequent Saturday—G. J. H. Hutchinson, and T. Place, Stockton-upon-Tees, bankers: sixth and final div. of 4d. Feb. 11 to 14, and any subsequent Saturday—J. Stein, T. Smith, R. Stein, J. Stein, and R. Smith, Feuchurch street, City, merchants: third div. of 6d., Feb. 8, and three following Saturdays—T. Eyre, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, corn merchant: third div. of 4d., any Wednesday—J. Crich, Sheffield, maltster: first div. of 1s. 2d., any Wednesday—J. Jackson, late of Patrington, Yorkshire, but now of Kingston-upon-Hull, innkeeper: first div. of 3d., Feb. 10, and any day after.

Tuesday, Feb. 11th.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

DICKIN, EDWARD, Tycock, Denbighshire, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.

ATKINSON, ANTHONY and FRANCIS, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, colour manufacturers, Feb. 20, April 3: solicitors, Mr Joseph Watson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Messrs Shield and Harwood, 26, Queen street, Cheapside, London.

BELLENGER, HIPOLITE FRANCIS, 10, Great Pulteney street, Golden square, but late of 303, Oxford street, licensed victualler, Feb. 19, March 26: solicitor, Mr Robson, Clifford's inn.

BURRELL, JAMES, and HALL, THOMAS, Thetford, Norfolk, iron founders, February 25, March 25: solicitor, Mr Johnston, Chancery lane.

CHALLENGER, JOHN, 45, White street, Southwark, grocer, February 21, March 28: solicitors, Messrs Buchanan and Grainger, Basinghall street.

COTTRELL, WILLIAM, Southampton, tea dealer, February 25, March 26: solicitors, Mr Braikenridge, Bartlett's buildings, Holborn; and Mr Newman, Southampton.

GRAY, HENRY PEACOCK, Caroline street, Eaton square, horse dealer, Feb. 18, March 25: solicitor, Mr Dupree, Lawrance lane, City.

PAUL, WILLIAM CHEATLE, Romford, Essex, sheep salesman, Feb. 28, March 25: solicitors, Messrs Hilleary, 63, Fenchurch street.

PETERS, JOHN, Godstone, Surrey, innkeeper, Feb. 18, April 8: solicitors, Messrs Blake and Tamplin, 6, King's road, Bedford row, London, and Mr George Dempster, Brighton.

STEADMAN, RICHARD, and ADIE, WILLIAM, Birmingham, button makers, Feb. 21, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

TYLER, SPENCER WILLIAM, Walcot place, Lambeth, carpenter, Feb. 18, March 25: solicitors, Messrs Buchanan and Co., Basinghall street.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BANSLEY, DAVID, Dunfermline, perfumer, Feb. 14, March 7.

OLDHAM, THOMAS, and OLDHAM, ELISHA, Aberdeen, contractors, Feb. 17, March 15.

HAMILTON, JAMES, and HAMILTON, ARTHUR, Glasgow, agents, Feb. 18, March 17.

DIVIDENDS.

J. Laycock, Colne, Lancashire, tallow chandler, final div. of 1s., any Tuesday—G. Grantham, Manchester, grocer, first div. of 3s. 8d., any Tuesday—J. C. Petrie, Bedlington, Durham, miller, first and sec. div. of 1s. 2d., any Saturday—J. C. Crispin, 31, Eastcheap, shipping agent, third div. of 6d., any Wednesday—C. Mann, Romford, Essex, banker, first and final div. of 20s., any Wednesday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

Business is exceedingly flat on the Stock Exchange, and it is evident that a fall in the price of funds is anticipated.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Ditto for Account	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per cent. Reduced	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
New 3½ per cent.	103½	103½	104	104	104	103½
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	214	214	213	213	215	214
India Stock	284	284	282	280	—	—
Exchequer Bills	64pm	64pm	60pm	59pm	59pm	58pm
India Bonds	74pm	76pm	70pm	70pm	—	—

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	93	London & Birm. ½ Shares	39
Birmingham & Gloucester	132	London and Brighton	56
Blackwall	8	London & Croydon Trunk	18½
Bristol and Exeter	79	London and Greenwich	11
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Ditto New	25
Eastern Counties	18	Manchester and Leeds	142
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties	129
Grand Junction	224	Ditto New Shares	8½
Great North of England	168	Midland and Derby	94
Great Western	180	Ditto New	—
Ditto Half	100	South Eastern and Dover	49
Ditto Fifths	40	South Western	78½
London and Birmingham	239	Ditto New	13

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Feb. 10.

We had but a small show of samples of wheat from the near counties, and but little fresh up from the east coast. The sales were, however, very slow at last week's currency for the best runs, but for other descriptions somewhat lower rates were submitted to.

Barley continues to be offered freely, both English and foreign, at last week's prices, and much remains unsold.

We have had rather a large arrival of Scotch oats, which have moved off slowly at a reduction of 6d. to 1s. per quarter; this has occasioned a very slack demand for Irish, but holders not being inclined to give way, only a small business has been done in them.

Beans and peas of all kinds have maintained prices.

Wheat, Red New	38 to 46	Malt, Ordinary	46 to 52
Fine	46 to 51	Pale	56 to 64
White	43 to 50	Rye	30 to 34
Fine	50 to 54	Peas, Hog	32 to 34
Flour, per sack	34 to 45	Maple	33 to 34
Barley	24 to 27	Boilers	39 to 36
Malting	32 to 35	Beans, Ticks	31 to 36

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.

Beans, Pigeon	32 to 38	Wheat	20s. 0d.
Harrow	33 to 36	Barley	4 0
Oats, Feed	20 to 22	Oats	6 0
Fine	22 to 24	Rye	10 6
Poland	21 to 24	Beans	7 6
Potato	22 to 24	Peas	7 6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR FEB. 7.

Wheat	45s. 5d.	Wheat	45s. 7d.
Barley	33 10	Barley	34 3
Oats	21 6	Oats	21 5
Rye	31 3	Rye	32 1
Beans	35 8	Beans	35 8
Peas	35 4	Peas	35 9

SEEDS.

The state of the weather must tend to retard the consumptive demand for red cloverseed, and there was very little doing in the article. At this morning's market holders were, however, mostly firm. White seed was but little inquired for. Canaryseed was plentiful, and again rather cheaper. Spring tares scarcely supported previous prices.

Linseed	per qr	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	52s. to 58s.	English, red	50s. to 58
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	58 to 78
Ditto, crushing	38 to 42	Flemish, pale	45 to 55
Medic. & Odessa	38 to 40	Ditto, fine	55 to 60
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	45 to 55
Large	—	Ditto, fine	58 to 60
Canary, new	51 to 52	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	52 to 53	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	44 to 46	French, red	45 to 60
New	48 to 50	Ditto, white	55 to 73
Ryegrass, English	—	Coriander	15 to 18
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	8 to 14	English, new	23s. to 25s.
White	10 to 13	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	—	English	13s. 0s. to 14s.
Old	—	Foreign	7s. 15s. to 9s.
Tares, new	6s. 0d. to 7s. 6d.	Rapeseed cakes	— to —

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Feb. 10.

The demand for Irish butter was better, and the transactions larger, at improved prices for some kinds, 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Foreign was in steady request, at prices varying, as in quality, from 80s. to 106s. per cwt. In singed bacon there was also an increased business; the sellers, influenced by the large stock on hand, met buyers nearly on their own terms; prices, therefore, ruled from 37s. to 44s. per cwt. according to freshness, mildness of cure, size, and quality. Bale and tierce middles moved very slowly, and we cannot report prices other than nominal. Hams rather more saleable, at from 48s. to 66s. per cwt. Lard inquired after, at 54s. to 58s. bladders, and 48s. to 54s. per cwt for kegs; but holders not free sellers at the prices.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Feb. 10.

The market continues steady, but it was thought that ere this there would have been more activity. A great many of the factors attended the auction of American last week, but although some of the finer qualities were much admired, the duty was considered prohibitory, and they were all bought in for exportation to Germany, at 100s. for the fine, and 55s. for the fair average quality.

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Feb. 10.

The supply during the past week has been considerably over the demand, and the weather has been seasonable, and suitable for the sale of potatoes. Notwithstanding, this market was greatly depressed, and there was but little inquiry.

York Reds	60 to 80	Kent & Essex Whites	55 to 65
Perth do.	55 to 60	Wishbeach Kidneys	— to 65
Early Devons do.	— to 65	Do. Whites	50 to 60
Cornwall do.	— to 65	Guernsey Blues	50 to 60
Jersey Blues	50 to 60	Prince Regents	50 to 70

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Feb. 10.

The beef trade, arising in great measure from the dead markets being heavily supplied with country meat, was in a very sluggish state, and last week's quotations were with difficulty supported. The primeest Scots found buyers at from 3s. 10d. to 4s. per 8lbs.; yet a clearance was not effected. The show of foreign stock in this morning amounted to 70 beasts and 130 sheep. The former sold at from 12s. to 18s.; the latter, 30s. to 42s. per head. The numbers of sheep were on the increase. Prime old downs with difficulty maintained their last week's

prices; and all other kinds were 2d. per 8lbs lower, with a heavy demand. Calves were in limited supply, and steady inquiry, at late rates. Pigs were in request, and prices were again supported. There were on sale about 1,500 shorn sheep, and 180 lambs.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	2s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.	Veal	3s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton	2s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.	Pork	3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday 432	3,100	160	364
Monday 3,104	30,540	61	320

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Feb. 10.

Inferior Beef 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.	Inf. Mutton 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d.
Middling do 2 10 .. 3 0	Mid. ditto 3 0 .. 3 4
Prime large 3 2 .. 3 4	Prime ditto 3 6 .. 3 8
Prime small 3 4 .. 3 6	Veal 4 4 .. 5 6
Large Pork 2 8 .. 3 10	Small Pork 4 0 .. 4 6

COTTON.
American cotton, more particularly that in bond, has been in good demand from the trade and speculators. A change cannot be quoted in prices, but the market closes with a less abundant choice, rather against the buyer. Surat, Brazils, Egyptians, and Sea Islands, are without the least change. 9,750 American and 150 Surat have been taken on speculation, and for exportation 650 American and 150 Surat. The total sales amount to 45,850 bales.

WOOL.
The prospects of the trade are still favourable. The large consumption in the north continues, and the demand for goods remains undiminished; prices, however, are not rising, as the manufacturers decidedly refuse to keep on giving advances; and having lately bought to a considerable extent, they have it in their power, for a while at least, to decline the demands of dealers and farmers. The public sales at the Hall of Commerce are proceeding briskly at the advance quoted in our last. The imports of wool into London last week were 733 bales; of which 536 were from Van Diemen's Land, 189 from Turkey, 15 from Antwerp, and 3 from Buenos Ayres.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Feb. 8.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow .. 70s. to 90s.	New Clover Hay .. 90s. to 120s.
New ditto	Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 92 .. 104	Oat Straw 32 .. 34
Fine Upland ditto 104 .. 110	Wheat Straw .. 34 .. 36

COAL EXCHANGE, Feb. 10.
Stewart's, 20s. 6d.; Hetton's, 20s. 6d.; Braddell's Hettons, 20s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 100.

GROCERIES.—TUESDAY, FEB. 11.
TEA.—The deliveries continue large; duty was paid in the last week on 443,266 lbs. There is not any alteration in prices. Some public sales are advertised for Friday next.

COFFEE.—1,300 bags Ceylon, plantation sort, offered in auction, went at 61s. to 72s. Mocha was in good demand, and 291 bales at auction were sold at the full value.

SUGAR.—Barbadoes sold at an advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. Good to fine yellow fetched 64s. to 67s. The total purchases amount to 300 hhds and tierces. Holders were not inclined to give way in price. In refined goods there was more doing, but the rates have not advanced. Standard lumps are selling at 72s. 6d. to 73s.; brown grocery at 71s. 6d. to 72s. Bengal, in auction, sold at full rates; good to fine white 64s. 6d. to 65s. 6d.

Advertisements.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, HOLLOWAY.
THE BUILDING COMMITTEE of the above Chapel beg to inform those gentlemen who have favoured them with Designs, that they have selected the one marked E.D.O., and that the remainder may be had on application at C. A. Bartlett's, 66, Paternoster row, London.
February 10, 1845.

TO DISSENTING MINISTERS, whether BAPTIST or INDEPENDENT.—All who have sons from nine to fourteen years of age, and who would wish to have them liberally Boarded and efficiently Educated by paying only Ten Pounds per Annum, may probably have their desire furthered by early application to the Rev. Mortlock Daniell, Hon. Sec., South Villa, Ramsgate.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.
A LECTURE will be delivered at the BAPTIST CHAPEL, NEW CHURCH STREET, EDGEWARE ROAD, on TUESDAY next, Feb. 18th, at Seven o'clock, by the Rev. F. A. COX, D.D., LL.D. Subject:—The Principles of Dissent, and the Evils of State Establishments of Religion. Members may be enrolled, and the publications of the Association had, at the close of the Lecture, and at the Offices, 5, Aldine chambers, Paternoster row.

NEW WORK BY MRS. ELLIS.
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WARD'S STANDARD DIVINITY; and LIBRARY OF THEOLOGY, CHURCH HISTORY and BIBLICAL LITERATURE. Without Abridgment.

1. Leighton's Theological Lectures	1 4
2. How's Redeemer's Tears. 1684.	0 9
3. Brooks's Unsearchable Riches of Christ	2 10
4. Porter's Lectures on Preaching, &c.	3 0
5. Mayhew's Death of Death. 1679.	1 8
6. Hall's Help to Zion's Travelers	1 2
7. Bellamy on the Nature and Glory of the Gospel	1 8
8. Charnock on Divine Providence. 1680.	1 8
9. Burns's Best Match. 1673.	1 4
10. Burns and Platt's Biblical Theology	6 0
11. Dickson on the Epistle to the Hebrews	1 8
12. Burns's History of the Hebrew Commonwealth	6 6
13. Burns's Biblical Antiquities. With Map and Plates.	6 0
14. Burns's Hall on Christian Moderation	1 0
15. Burns's on the Harmony of the Divine Attributes	3 0
16. Burns's on the Godhead of the Holy Spirit	1 8
17. Burns's Notes on Joshua and Judges	5 6
18. Fuller's Calvinistic and Socinian Systems Compared	2 0
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THE ONE CHURCH; or, Sects Unscriptural.
By MORTLOCK DANIELL, Ramsgate.
"I groan over the divisions of the church, of all our evils I think the greatest—of Christ's church I mean—that men should call themselves Roman catholics, Church-of-England men, Baptists, Quakers, all sorts of various appellations, forgetting that only glorious name of Christian, which is common to all, and a true bond of union."—*The late Dr Arnold, of Rugby.*
GARDINER, Princes street, Cavendish square; HAMILTON, ADAMS, and Co., Paternoster row.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 1st, will be published,
THE LAW OF CHRIST FOR MAINTAINING AND EXTENDING HIS CHURCH. By the Rev. DAVID YOUNG, D.D., of Perth.
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST—WHAT IS IT? being the First Premium Tract, price 2d., was published on the 1st of February.

AN ADDRESS TO DISSENTERS on the RELIGIOUS BEARINGS of the STATE-CHURCH QUESTION, was published on January 1st. Price 2d.
Offices, 5, Aldine chambers, Paternoster row.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE have much pleasure in announcing, that a comfortable and commodious room—part of the offices of the Association, Aldine chambers, Paternoster row—will be opened for the accommodation of Ministers from the country, and other Gentlemen, being Members of the Association, on and after the 1st of March, 1845. The room will be open from 10 o'clock a.m. till 4 p.m.—Sundays and days on which Committee Meetings are held excepted. It will be supplied with several Reviews, Magazines, and other Periodicals; and a Book will be prepared, in which Members of the Association from the Provinces can insert their names and addresses, while resident in the Metropolis. This accommodation, being intended for Members of the Association, will be entirely gratuitous.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.
LECTURES developing the Objects of this ASSOCIATION will be delivered in the following order:—
SOUTHWARK.—On THURSDAY, Feb. 13, at Union street chapel (Rev. J. Lyon's), by Rev. JOHN BURNET. Subject: State Churches Unsanctioned by Old Testament Analogy.
SHADWELL.—On THURSDAY, Feb. 13, at Shakespeare's walk chapel (Rev. T. Moore's), by Rev. W. FORSTER, of Highgate. Subject: The Legal Abolition of State Churches the Religious Duty of Dissenters.
ISLINGTON.—On FRIDAY, Feb. 14, at Islington Green chapel (Rev. J. J. Brown's), by the Rev. F. A. COX, D.D., LL.D. Subject: The Principles of Dissent, and the Evils of State Establishments of Religion. To commence at Seven o'clock. Members may be enrolled, and the Publications of the Association had, at the close of the Lectures, and at the Offices, 5, Aldine chambers, Paternoster row.

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.
President, W. S. CRAWFORD, Esq., M.P.
THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at the Guildhall Hotel, Gresham street, on Monday, Feb. 24th, at Seven o'clock, for the election of officers for 1845, and the transaction of other business. In order to the preparation for this meeting, the Committee will meet at Hart's hotel, Aldersgate street, on Monday Evening next, at Seven o'clock, when they will be glad to receive the nomination of suitable gentlemen for the offices of vice-presidents and committee, enrol members, and complete the balloting lists.
A. COCKSHAW, Hon. Sec.

NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, WINCHMORE HILL, MIDDLESEX.
THE following APPEAL is made in the earnest hope that it will meet with the kind attention of the Friends of Evangelical Truth. The Congregational church at Winchmore hill originated, about the year 1785, in the labours of Mr Whitefoot, who preached amidst much opposition on the Green. In a short time a small wooden coach-house was converted into a chapel, in which the congregation assembled above fifty-five years. This building, after the expiration of the lease, in 1841, they occupied as yearly tenants until Michaelmas, 1843. At Midsummer, 1843, they received an unexpected notice to quit in Three Months. The only method left them of perpetuating nonconformity was the erection of a chapel. A freehold piece of ground having been given, the building was commenced, and during the time of its erection they assembled in the house of one of the friends.

The chapel, which is substantially built, and capable of seating about 300, without galleries, was opened on the 13th August, 1844. It has cost above £1,000, towards which the congregation and other friends have contributed about £355. When £500 have been collected, it is intended to put the place in trust; and, to enable them to secure this most desirable object, this appeal is now made. It is gratifying to be able to state, that much spiritual good has been effected by the efforts to promote the spread of the truth in the neighbourhood, and it is hoped the liberality of Christian friends who may read this statement will assist the little church and congregation so as to give them the prospect of securing the much-needed services of an able minister of the New Testament.

The case is well known to, and cordially recommended by, the following ministers:—
J. Harris, D.D. Cheshunt col. S. A. Davis Enfield
J. Pye Smith, D.D. Homerton col J. Stribling Enfield
J. Leifeild, D.D. Craven chapel J. J. Davies Tottenham
A. Reed, D.D. Wickliffe ch. J. Hargreaves Walth. Abbey
Thomas Lewis Islington A. Stewart Barnet
George Clayton, Walworth C. J. Harrison Edmonton
James Sherman Surrey chapel

By whom Subscriptions will be thankfully received; also at the Offices of the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist* papers. The following sums are gratefully acknowledged:—

Mr Radford	50 0 0	Mr Ellis	1 0 0
Mrs Yallowley	40 0 0	Thos Chambers, Esq.	1 1 0
W. Richards, Esq.	10 0 0	W. Weare, Esq.	1 0 0
Collectors at chapel	10 5 10	Samuel Latham, Esq.	1 0 0
Collecting Cards and Books	24 19 10	Mrs Dimsdale	2 0 0
Do. Do.	5 10 6	John Cornwell, Esq.	2 0 0
Do. Do.	13 13 8	B. Perry, Esq.	1 0 0
Do. Miss R.	6 3 6	A Friend	1 0 0
Do. various sums	10 11 0	Mrs Saxby	1 0 0
Collectors at opening, 13 Aug.	47 1 4	By G. W.	1 0 0
J. R. Thomson's card	5 5 0	— Knox, Esq.	1 0 0
Collecting Cards and Books	8 4 0	By Mr Russell	1 0 0
Samuel Weston, Esq.	5 0 0	Mr Stuart	1 1 0
B. Tucker, Esq.	10 0 0	A Friend	3 0 0
Mr Alderman Challis	5 0 0	Mrs Stanard	2 0 0
John Dixon, Esq.	5 0 0	H. Wilkinson, Esq.	1 0 0
W. Goodings, Esq.	5 0 0	Mr Johnson	1 0 0
Mr Jones	5 0 0	Thos Bidlake, Esq.	1 0 0
Mr Fisher	3 0 0	S. Goodings, Esq.	1 0 0
S. Whaley, Esq.	5 0 0	Miss Gresham	1 0 0
N. Roberts, Esq.	3 3 0	Mr Brunt	2 0 0
Collection, Mr Stribling	3 0 0	Mr Bound	1 0 0
Do.	2 2 0	Mrs Whaley	1 0 0
Mrs Pontifex	5 0 0	R. Fauntleroy, Esq.	2 0 0
S. Walters, Esq.	5 0 0	Mr Linsell	1 0 0
H. Spicer, Esq.	2 2 0	Mr Allcott	1 0 0
W. R. Spicer, Esq.	1 0 0	E. H.	1 0 0
W. Wiggins, Esq.	1 0 0	Card, Miss Baugh	1 0 0
Joshua Wilson, Esq.	1 0 0	A. M'Nab, Esq.	1 0 0
Warton, Esq.	1 0 0	John Davis, Esq.	1 0 0
J. L.	2 2 0	Mr Littler	1 2 0
		Mr Reynolds' card	1 0 0
		Mr Wall	1 0 0
		Various small sums	10 16 0

GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN.

THE NEXT MEETING of the LEAGUE in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN, will be HELD on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 19th INSTANT.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY ROAD.
Instituted 1758.

THE NEXT HALF-YEARLY ELECTION will take place on the 30th APRIL, 1845. Candidates are received from all parts of the kingdom, provided they are in good health, are between seven and eleven years of age, and have neither been in a prison nor a workhouse. Printed forms of petition may be had, and all particulars known, by applying to the secretary at the School, to whom also Subscriptions may be paid. Petitions must be sent in before the 1st of March.
JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

The Annual Report and List of Governors may be had, on application, at the School, where the Secretary attends every Tuesday and Thursday from ten until one o'clock.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY ROAD.
Instituted 1758.

SPECIAL APPEAL for the NEW BUILDING about to be erected at HAVERSTOCK HILL, HAMPSHIRE ROAD, for the reception of TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY CHILDREN.

The ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL was established in the year 1758, and was opened at Hoxton for the reception of twenty poor orphan or destitute Boys. The efforts of a few benevolent individuals soon enabled the Committee to admit twenty Girls also. In 1771, it was found that the accommodation was insufficient, inasmuch as many more children had been added to the number already stated, whilst the premises being old, and in a dilapidated condition, were not worth the extensive repairs which became necessary. The Committee, therefore, purchased a plot of freehold land in the City road, one portion of which was let on a building lease, and on the other the present building was erected, in the year 1773, for thirty-five Boys and thirty-five Girls. A gradual increase has taken place in this number, until it has reached at the present time one hundred and twenty-one, the full number being now seventy Boys and fifty-one Girls. The average annual admissions for the last three years have been twenty-six children from all parts of the country. One thousand one hundred and ninety-two children have been received since its commencement, most of whom, after receiving a religious, useful, and suitable education, have been placed in situations, in which they have, by industry and good conduct, obtained a comfortable livelihood, and some of them have risen to influential stations in society, and become Governors of the Charity.

The present building will not admit of enlargement without depriving the children of the means of healthful recreation; and the altered and now confined situation of the school would render that measure on many accounts undesirable. After mature consideration, the Governors determined to erect a new building capable of receiving double the present number of children. For this purpose they purchased an eligible piece of land, about three miles from the City, on an elevated spot, at Haverstock hill, Hampstead road. The subscriptions now solicited will determine the number of children who can be admitted as soon as the building is finished.

Every Ten Guineas given or collected constitutes a Life Governor, provided the money is entered in one name only. All may do something. The rich can give of their abundance. The parent with moderate means may put in his contribution, not knowing but that at some future period this Institution may afford a safe retreat for his orphan children. Even the less affluent may assist, by interesting their friends in the claims of the destitute and Orphan. To the Christian portion of the public, above all, is the appeal made—"Freely have ye received, freely give."

Under these circumstances, the Committee appeal to the public for aid in their important undertaking. They have a great work before them, and they rely upon the friends of the Orphan to assist them by their contributions. They are not seeking their own glory, but the present and future welfare of their fellow-creatures, and the approbation of Him who has declared, that, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

On behalf of the Committee,
London, Jan. 27, 1845. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY ANNOUNCED.

George Byng, Esq., M.P.	£105 0 0
Henry Weymouth, Esq.	100 0 0
John B. Mills, Esq.	100 0 0
Amount already advertised	£1,603 5 0

Mrs Trueman	£ 21 0 0	Joshua Wilson, Esq.	£ 31 0 0
Joseph Tucker	10 10 0	John Bell, Esq.	10 10 0
Rev. Dr Burder	5 5 0	James Forster, Esq.	5 5 0
Mrs Burder	5 5 0	William Greig, Esq.	10 10 0
Rev. W. Walford	10 10 0	John Newbald, Esq.	10 10 0
J. C. Cameron, Esq.	5 5 0	Mrs Newbald	5 5 0
John Procter, Esq.	10 10 0	W. B.	5 5 0
Joseph Procter, Esq.	10 10 0	George Meek, Esq.	10 10 0
Mrs Pryor	5 5 0	B. Wilkinson, Esq.	5 5 0
Miss Purvis	5 5 0	E. S. Wilkinson, Esq.	5 5 0
T. H. Riches, Esq.	10 10 0	H. Wilkinson, Esq.	10 10 0
John B. Rippon, Esq.	5 5 0	C. E. Cox, Esq.	5 5 0
Mrs Stratton	10 10 0	Mr David Lonsdale	5 5 0
Mrs Joad	5 5 0	Samuel Mart, Esq.	5 5 0
John Dixon, Esq.	21 0 0	Miss A. Rutt	5 5 0
Miss M. A. Wright	5 5 0	Miss E. Rutt	5 5 0
Rev. J. Davies	5 5 0	Miss Samworth	5 5 0
W. Leavers, Esq.	10 10 0	Mrs Page, Montagu place	5 5 0
Miss Lisdell	5 5 0	Miss Olding	5 5 0
Thos Norton, Esq.	5 5 0		

Subscriptions and donations will be received at the London Joint Stock Bank, Princes street; Messrs Coutts and Co., Strand; Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard street; Jones, Loyd, and Co., Lombury; Masterman and Co., Nicholas lane; Overend, Gurney, and Co., Lombard street; Hankey and Co., Fenchurch street; Williams, Deacon, and Co., Birchin lane; Praed and Co., Fleet street; Rogers, Olding, Sharpe, and Co., Clement's lane; The London and Westminster Bank, Lombury, and at all its Branches; Messrs Nisbet and Co., Berners street, Oxford street; Jackson and Walford, St Paul's Churchyard; Mr Charles Gilpin, bookseller, Bishopsgate street; by Mr Joseph Soul, the Secretary, at the school, City road; to whom all communications are respectfully requested to be addressed. And by Mr James Harrison, the Collector, 21, Doris street, Kennington cross.

* Collecting Books are prepared, which the Secretary will be happy to furnish.

VAUXHALL COMPOSITE CANDLES, 84d.

per lb. PRICE'S PATENT CANDLES, 104d. per lb. These are the London cash prices, but the Country ones vary with the distance from town.

Both sorts burn exactly as well as the finest wax, and are cheaper, allowing for the light, than tallow moulds.

Sold wholesale to the trade by Edward Price and Co., Belmont, Vauxhall; Palmer and Co., Sutton street, Clerkenwell; and Wm Marchant, 253, Regent circle, Oxford street.

Until these Candles become generally sold throughout the country, Edward Price and Co. will supply any private families unable to obtain them in their own neighbourhood, with a quantity not less than 54. worth, direct from the factory. On a line being addressed to Belmont, Vauxhall, enclosing a Post office order for 54. (payable to Edward Price and Co., not to Edward Price, or Mr Price), they will forward a box of the Vauxhall Composite, or of the others, or a mixed box, as may be directed, to that exact amount.

Printed and published at the Office, at No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street, in the parish of St Dunstan in the West, in the city of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 12th of FEBRUARY, 1845.